

The Eco-Traveller Notes for Teachers – Kenya

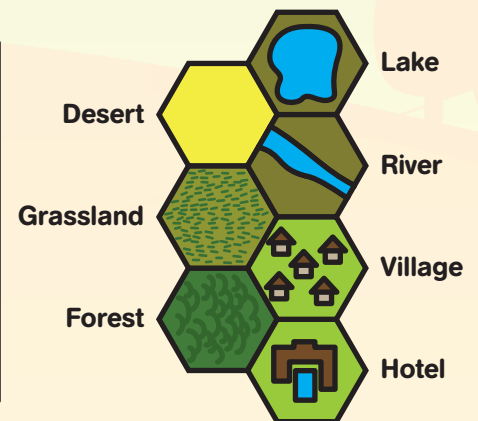
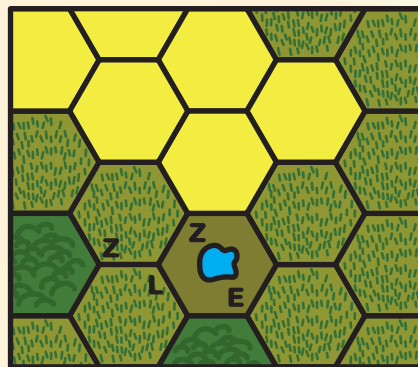
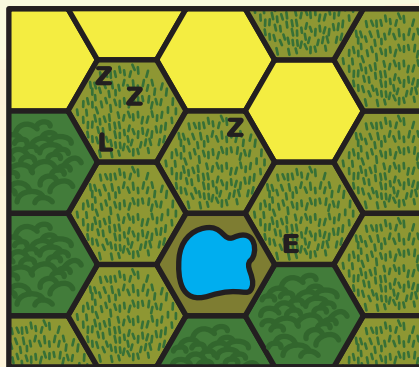


This exercise is closely linked to science topics such as habitats and food chains. Pupils are able to set up their own game reserve, fitting animals into the 'correct' habitat with plants (**producers**), herbivores and carnivores (**consumers**) to make a food-chain.

It is important to add water-holes or lakes and a few streams, so animals have access to water. Tourist hotels and villages should be set away from the herds.

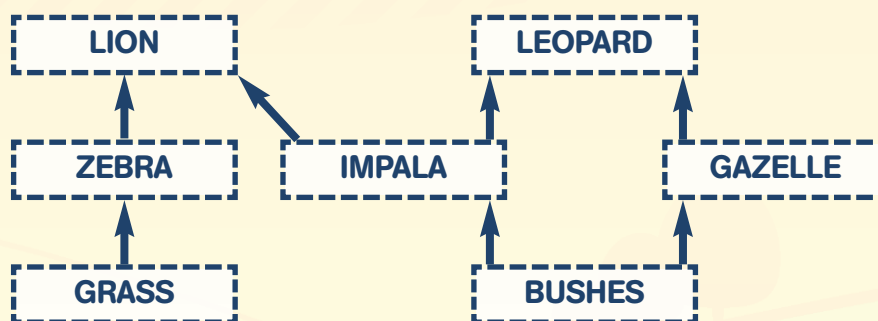
Students should be encouraged to create a second map, if time permits, showing less forest and more sandy desert. Lots of animals will have to move or migrate as their habitat disappears under the advancing sand dunes.

This is intended to show the difficulties caused by climate change and **desertification**.



Taking this simple example, lions and herds of zebra have been driven into a smaller space closer to the elephants, as grasslands retreat. The lake is also much smaller and fragmented due to drought and rapid evaporation.

Try and create a food chain on a separate piece of paper.



In this very simple example, grasslands feed the herds of zebra, while the gazelle and impala feed on bushes. As drought reduces the forest, leopards find it harder to prey on smaller numbers of gazelle and are forced to hunt more of the impala instead.

This makes life harder for the lions as they face greater competition for food, so they must respond by catching more of the zebra.

In this way, all the animals become endangered.

Encourage your pupils to do some research either from books or the internet. As a bonus, your pupils can go into their local First Choice store and request more information to complete the activity sheets. Your First Choice store will have some fact sheets and any brochures available on the various destinations for your pupils to cut out pictures if need be. If your pupils go into the stores with their families they can expect to walk away with an Eco-Traveller certificate just for asking for more information.

