

STUDENT EDITION

Recap

You will be going to the State Fair of Texas to observe what happens near the food vendors...other than just *human* activity. Are any other creatures hanging around? While you're there, you'll also check out how the Fair food vendors conserve/waste water and use other resources.

Recall from your class discussions:

- ★ The terms **food webs** and **trophic pyramids**.
 - Check out this nifty predator/prey simulator to see how animal populations can change: http://www.phschool.com/atschool/phbio/active_art/predator_prey_simulation/
- ★ You may have practiced drawing population curve graphs.
- ★ As a class, you may have made a list of renewable and nonrenewable resources.
- ★ During art class, you may have looked up artists who create sustainable art:
 - http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/07/15/environmental-art_n_5585288.html
 - http://www.huffingtonpost.com/daniel-grant/sustainability-and-art-schools_b_1417562.html



Plan Your Route

- ★ Read ahead through the instructions below, so that you know where to go before you get to the Fair.



Optional Materials to Bring

- ★ Writing utensil and something to write on
- OR
- ★ A way to digitally take notes
 - ★ A device with a camera

While You're There

You will use information you gather at the State Fair to help you with THREE project goals:

1. Develop a proposal for the Fair to help make Fair practices more sustainable.
2. Create your own sustainable artwork.
3. Write a 1-page story about an animal you observed and the food it was eating.

The objective of your visit is to observe which species other than humans are noshing on Fair foods and observe how vendors are using renewable and non-renewable resources.

★**FOOD IN THE WILD:** Find a spot where you can observe a group of outdoor food vendors.

- o Note or take photos of what non-human species are also eating Fair foods. What critters are around the trash cans? Are there any eating foods that people have dropped on the pavement? Are there any (gasp) trying to get a snack while food is being prepared?
- o Also observe the vendors' preparation methods.
 - What is their water source and how are they using it? Do they ever just leave it running? How do they plate their food or drinks? What material are plates and cups made of?
 - Note where vendors are getting their energy to run their booth.
- o Note what refuse receptacles are available and how people are using them. Are there recycle bins or only trash?
 - Are people using recycle bins correctly?

★**SUSTAINABLE ART:** As you make your way through the Fair, keep an eye out for renewable and nonrenewable resources.

★**ANTHROPOMORPHIZING (ENGLISH PORTION):** As you walk through the Fair, try to really notice at least one example of a non-human patron eating Fair foods.

- o Take a picture of the squirrel, pigeon, dog, etc. eating the food and observe the animal as it eats.
 - What is it eating?
 - Was the food dropped or fed to the animal?
 - Is the animal enjoying the food?
 - Does it finish the food or move on to another food item?



“One Beat One Tree” by Nehiza Mestaoui. Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/07/15/environmental-art_n_5585288.html



Back at School

When you return to class following your State Fair visit, you will work on your three projects. See your teachers for more information.