

Habitat Cards

Make enough copies so each chair has one, be sure there is an even mix of habitats.

Mudflats	Sandy beaches
Saline lakes	Rocky coastal areas
Saltmarsh	Tundra
Grasslands	Agricultural fields

Environmental Event Cards

<p>A town has 300 acres of undeveloped grassland. It is replaced by a shopping mall and office complex.</p>	<p>A coastal community sells 50 miles of beachfront property to a local developer who builds homes, a strip mall, and a hotel complex.</p>
<p>An oil spill off the Atlantic Coast near Delaware Bay threatens migrating shorebirds that feed there.</p>	<p>An unusually heavy rainy season causes streams to flood lowland fields.</p>
<p>A hurricane blows away sand dunes where Snowy Plovers are nesting.</p>	<p>A drought threatens to dry out local freshwater wetlands.</p>
<p>Silt barrier fences are not installed at a new construction project. Rain carries loose soil into a nearby wetland.</p>	<p>Tanks of toxic chemicals buried in a field eventually leak into the soil of a nearby wetland.</p>

Environmental Event Cards

<p>A once restricted area of beach is opened up to public recreation. Personal watercraft vehicles (For example Jet Skis.) now scare away nesting and feeding shorebirds.</p>	<p>A farmer cuts hay in a field where shorebirds are nesting.</p>
<p>Agricultural chemicals are carried by runoff into a nearby wetland.</p>	<p>Because of habitat loss from disturbance, pollution, and development, migrating shorebirds have not been able to stop at their traditional stopover sites. They do not have enough energy to continue their migration to the Arctic to breed.</p>
<p>Create your own</p>	<p>Create your own</p>
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Environmental Stewardship

<p>A town has 300 acres of undeveloped grassland. Of that, 200 acres will be used for a mall. The remaining 100 acres will be set aside as a preserve for local wildlife that includes an outdoor learning and research area.</p>	<p>A coastal community sells 50 miles of beachfront property to a local developer for building homes, a mall, and a hotel. The developer also plans to work with biologists to protect important beach habitat by landscaping with native plants.</p>
<p>A federal law is passed that requires all oil tankers to be double-hulled to help prevent hull punctures that result in oil spills.</p>	<p>Tanks of toxic chemicals buried in a field are removed by the Environmental Protection Agency. The company that buried the chemicals is paying to restore the land and the wetland.</p>
<p>Silt barrier fences are installed at a new construction project. The silt barrier stops rain from carrying loose soil into a nearby wetland.</p>	<p>Through water management projects, the local National Wildlife Refuge is able to provide water for the wetland so that shorebirds can use the habitat.</p>
<p>An unusually heavy rainy season causes streams to flood lowland fields. Shorebirds are able to find other nearby habitat to feed and rest.</p>	<p>Biologists plant native grasses to stabilize beach dunes, preventing them from blowing away. Though some natural damage still occurs from a hurricane, Snowy Plovers and the dunes survive.</p>

Environmental Stewardship

<p>A once restricted area of beach is opened up to public recreation. However, boats and skiers stay 200 feet away from the beach and use provided ramps for access.</p>	<p>When applying agricultural chemicals, a landowner follows the directions on the label to keep chemicals 100 feet away from wetlands. He also applies only during the recommended weather conditions. As a result, there are not pollutants in the wetland.</p>
<p>A farmer cuts hay in a field after the shorebirds finish nesting in mid-July.</p>	<p>Important stopover habitat is protected by national and state wildlife refuges and parks. Shorebirds have enough energy to complete their journey to the Arctic and breed successfully.</p>
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