

## **Earth Systems**

### **Standard II, objective 2**

#### **Title: List-Group-Label**

**Description:** Students will generate a **list** of items found in an ecosystem and then **group** them by similarities. The teacher will guide the discussion to eventually **label** all traits as biotic or abiotic.

**Materials:** overhead or index cards(10-12 per group)

**Time Needed:** 30 minutes

#### **Procedure:**

1. Ask students to think about all the parts of an ecosystem. You can write their responses on the board or overhead or you can have students write the parts on index cards (one per card).
2. Once a list has been generated, ask students to group them. Discuss what characteristics might be used to create groups. Do not label the groups yet.
3. Give students an opportunity to categorize each of the parts that were listed. If they have index cards, they can work in a group and move the cards around. They should only develop two or three categories.
4. Clarify the characteristics of each category and give students the definition (or have them look it up in their books)
  - Abiotic: non-living
  - Biotic: living
5. Ask students to put all the parts into one of these two groups. Have a group share what they get and discuss with the class whether they are right or wrong. The textbook could also be used to have students check their work.
6. If a written assignment is desired, have students write definitions for each category and list the parts under each.