

## Handout

My Ecosystem: \_\_\_\_\_

### Research

What kind of plants grow in my ecosystem?

What kind of animals live in my ecosystem?

What are some different human communities who live in my ecosystem?

What is the earth like in my ecosystem? (ie., rocky, sandy, rich soil, clay, arid, etc)

What is the climate like in my ecosystem?

### Experiment

1. Create a representation of your ecosystem in the pie plate using natural materials.
2. Plan a clean-up method using the materials provided.
3. Add 2 cups of water to your pie plate ecosystem.
4. Measure 25mL of vegetable oil in a graduated cylinder.
5. Add a few drops of food colouring to your oil and mix.
6. Add oil to your pie plate ecosystem.
7. Clean up as much of the oil as you can from your pie plate ecosystem.
8. Pour the remaining oil and water into your graduated cylinder.
9. Wait for the oil and water to separate.

**Measure:**

Total in cylinder: \_\_\_\_\_ ml

Water in cylinder: \_\_\_\_\_ ml

Total – water = remaining oil

\_\_\_\_\_ ml - \_\_\_\_\_ ml = \_\_\_\_\_ ml

25ml – remaining oil = oil cleaned

25 ml - \_\_\_\_\_ ml = \_\_\_\_\_ ml

How much oil did you clean up? \_\_\_\_\_ ml

How effective was your cleanup method?

What worked well? What didn't work as well as you expected?

Look into your method of cleanup. What would this cost in a real oil spill?