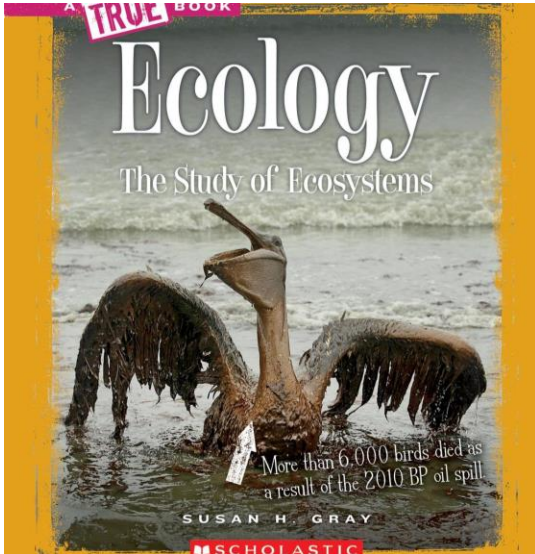


Discussion Guide for Families



Ecology: The Study of Ecosystems

Author: Susan Heinrichs Gray

Themes: Environment and Sustainability

Book Brief: Whether you're interested in weather, oceans, or even the prehistoric world, earth science covers it all. The fascinating facts and fun activities in these titles help the budding earth scientist in you explore the fields of geology, meteorology, ecology, and more.

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Ask your child “Why do you think it's important to study ecology and the environment? What do you know about ecosystems and why we need to protect them?”

While Reading: Make Connections

- What are you learning about the study of ecology and ecosystems so far?
- How do the illustrations help you understand the vocabulary and concepts in the book?
- Can you list five different ecosystems and some important vocabulary related to each one?

After Reading: Ask Questions

- After reading the book, what can we do to help clean up our rivers, lakes, and oceans? How can people reduce pollution in our waterways?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book, consider:

- Encourage them to talk about it during other conversations.
- Check out RIF's [Sustainable Futures](#) center to learn more about sustainability with related books and resources.