

## **Natural science and technology grade 6 worksheet 3**

### **Ecosystems**

- An ecosystem contains both living as well as non-living entities.
- Examples of non-living things include; water, sunlight, soil and air.
- An ecosystem provides all resources which living organisms need to survive.
- The earth has many different ecosystems these include river, mountains, grasslands, deserts, wetlands, forests, ponds, the oceans as well as rocky shores.
- Different ecosystems have their own unique types of plants and animals which live in them.

### **Grasslands ecosystems**



- These are areas with large open spaces.
- Extreme heat during summer and extreme cold during winter.
- Contains mainly grasses and small bushes.
- Herbivores, carnivores and insects exist in grassland ecosystems.
- Zebras, impalas, giraffes, rhinos, termites, lions, leopards and hyenas are some of the animals found in the grassland habitat.
- Poaching is a major problem in grassland habitats.

### **River ecosystems**



- these are freshwater bodies that go through land and end at the sea.
- Rivers contain many shady banks.
- Rivers can be either warm or cold depending on where the river is situated.
- Fish, frogs, insects and birds can be found along the river.
- Trees and small plants also grow along the river banks.
- Water pollution poses a major threat to river ecosystems.

### **Pond ecosystems**



- These are small freshwater bodies.
- It is shady and cool underwater.
- The soil around the ponds are damp.
- As the seasons change the temperature around the ponds change as well.
- Organisms live in, on and around the water in a pond ecosystem.
- Plants such as water lilies, pondweed, bulrushes and reeds are found in pond habitats.
- Fish, frogs, insects and birds are animals found in pond ecosystems.
- Water pollution is a major problem to pond ecosystems.

## **Forest ecosystems**



- these ecosystems are shady and cool
- these environments have plenty of water and are damp.
- Many trees and plant species can be found in a forest habitat.
- Animals such as buck, snakes, wildcats, birds and insects can be found in forest ecosystems.
- Deforestation is a major threat to forest ecosystems

## **Activity**

**Copy and complete the following table**

| <b>Ecosystem</b> | <b>Description</b> | <b>Plants</b> | <b>Animals</b> | <b>Threats</b> |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Grassland        |                    |               |                |                |
| River            |                    |               |                |                |
| Pond             |                    |               |                |                |
| Forest           |                    |               |                |                |

