

Suggestions for a non-quiz assessment tool

1. Ask students to draw a food web specific to an ecosystem in your area. Students should indicate the energy flow, and calculate the approximate number of joules of energy that pass through to the highest-level consumers. They should then choose a specific food chain within their web and document each energy transfer along the chain. They should also indicate the way in which energy is lost at each transfer point.
2. Have students create a plan for your region's use of agricultural lands, based on available resources in your home state or region, taking into account ecological efficiency
3. Have students conduct independent research on the topic of 'environmental vegetarianism', then debate its pros and cons in class
4. Ask students to write a children's book about energy flow in an ecosystem or about ecological footprints