

# TEACHER GUIDE

to

## OKLAHOMA ECOSYSTEMS

### PASS for Grade 6 Life Science

**Standard 4** Populations consist of individuals of a species that occur together at a given place and time. All populations living together and the physical factor with which they interact compose an ecosystem.

### Text for the Bellringer

Ecosystems consist of the plants and animals that live in a particular place. Ecosystems also include the rocks, soil, and other natural features of that place. Oklahoma has many different kinds of ecosystems.

Can you identify these Oklahoma places?

Within which region of Oklahoma is each place located?

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### **Sequence of Images:**

**Black Mesa**, located in the tip of the Oklahoma Panhandle (near Black Mesa State Park)

**Red Slough Wildlife Management Area**, in the southeast corner of Oklahoma

**Great Salt Plains**, in northwest Oklahoma (near Great Salt Plains State Park and the Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge)

**Alabaster Caverns State Park**, in northwest Oklahoma

**Little Sahara State Park**, in northwest Oklahoma

**Horsethief Canyon**, near Perkins and the Cimarron River, in central Oklahoma

**Ouachita Mountains**, within the Ouachita National Forest in southeast Oklahoma

**Wichita Mountains**, within the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge in southwest Oklahoma

**Arbuckle Mountains**, near Davis in south central Oklahoma; (near Turner Falls, Chickasaw National Recreation Area and Lake Murray State Park)

**Ozark Plateau**, in northeast Oklahoma (near the Illinois River and Grand Lake)

**Gloss Mountains State Park**, in northwest Oklahoma

**Red Rock Canyon State Park**, near Hinton in western Oklahoma

**Tallgrass Prairie Preserve**, in Osage County of north central Oklahoma (near Osage Hills State Park)

**Mixed Grass Prairie**, in western Oklahoma (Black Kettle National Grassland)

Playa Lake and Short Grass Prairie, in the Oklahoma Panhandle

**Cross Timbers**, throughout central Oklahoma, stretching from Kansas to the Texas borders (Lake Thunderbird State Park, Keystone State Park, Okmulgee State Park, Lake Murray State Park, and Lake Texoma State Park)

**Conclusion:**

Oklahoma contains many different kinds of ecosystems.

Oklahoma has great natural beauty.

We take pride in our state. It is up to all of us to keep Oklahoma beautiful. Please place litter where it belongs, which is in a trash can.

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**References (Internet)**

[www.wildlifedepartment.com/biodiversity.htm](http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/biodiversity.htm)

[www.okcc.state.ok.us/Publications/OK\\_wetlands\\_References\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.okcc.state.ok.us/Publications/OK_wetlands_References_Guide.pdf)  
(pages 74 thru 88)

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<http://biology.usgs.gov/ecosystems/>