

Doing The City of Ft. Myers...

BIOLOGIST: NAME:

OUR TASK IS TO FIND OUT ALL YOU CAN (IN THE NEXT 45 MINUTES) ABOUT NATURE AND NATURAL SYSTEMS EVIDENT IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA. THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE ONLY SUGGESTIONS. WE WANT YOU TO CHANGE AND/OR ADD TO THEM AS YOU INVESTIGATE DOWNTOWN. ADDRESS THE QUESTIONS THAT YOU CAN BEST GATHER INFORMATION ON. ANSWER RIGHT ON THIS SHEET. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO TURN THIS SHEET IN AT THE END OF THE TRIP. WORK IN YOUR SMALL GROUP TRAVELING IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE BRIDGE, SECOND STREET, FOWLER AV. AND THE RIVER (You do not have to cover the whole area). YOUR TASK IS TO FIND OUT HOW NATURAL SYSTEMS HAVE SHAPED THE DOWNTOWN AREA AND IN TURN ARE NOW SHAPED BY HUMAN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.

As you walk the Downtown core make an inventory of all the plants and animals that you can observe (if you don't know their name make up a descriptive name and draw a sketch of key parts for later I.D.). Place an "N" next to those you believe to be native and an "E" next to those you think are "exotics."

Do you find any plantings that are designed to recreate or maintain native communities such as Mangrove, Pine Flatwoods, Oak Hammock, Cypress Swamp, etc.?

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3. What observations can you make relative to the relationship between the plants and animals in the downtown area and the humans who live and work there?

Biologist Task: Carefully observe members of one species, or an individual animal in the Downtown area. Describe (sketch/write) where it feeds, gets water, seeks shelter, and how it interacts with others.

The following question(s) are potential organizers for your small group discussion back at Centennial Park. Use these or your own findings to prepare (in your 12 +/-min. planning session) a 3-4 min, briefing to the class by combining into one specialist perspective of the City. Write your notes on this sheet.

✎ Develop proposals for how the Downtown Ft. Myers core can be made more attractive and sustainable for wildlife. Also, provide the reasons that this would be a worthwhile endeavor to implement.