

Possible Journal Questions or Discussion Questions:

Time Needed: 15-20 minutes

This should be done after the lab is completed. You may choose to have the students write down some of the key points that are brought out in this discussion.

- How is this activity similar to and different from a functioning ecosystem?

- What is the big idea or key concept that we can take away from this activity.

- How does the energy spent by an organism gaining food compare to the energy gained from the food?

- Can we brainstorm 8 different examples of spending energy and gaining energy by organisms? Two of these should be examples where animals spend an unusual amount of energy to gain an unusual amount of energy?

- What are some examples of ways that organisms conserve energy? What are some reasons they would need to conserve energy?