

Web of Life

How are living things in an environment connected?
Draw lines to show the connections between organisms.

Bald Eagle

Snowshoe Hare

Timberwolf

Red Squirrel

Willow

Hemlock

Moose

Salmon

Sea Gull

Magpie

Otter

Cottonwood

Golden Eagle

Think About It!

1. How many connections could you create? _____
2. If a disease or pollution caused a decline in the salmon population, what would happen to your web?
3. The living things in an environment are called biotic factors, while the nonliving things are called abiotic factors. What abiotic factors can be found in the Three River Junction environment? How are these factors used by the living organisms in this environment?
4. Why do eagles spend their winters in the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve?
5. What can we do to protect the bald eagle?

Think About It!

1. How many connections could you create? _____ (Various responses)
2. If a disease or pollution caused a decline in the salmon population, what would happen to your web?

The animals that depend on the salmon as a food source would starve or have to depend on another fish species for food.

3. The living things in an environment are called biotic factors, while the nonliving things are called abiotic factors. What abiotic factors can be found in the Three River Junction environment? How are these factors used by the living organisms in this environment?

Possible answers include:

Water (river) - Used as a source for water and a home for salmon
Soil - Provides trees, grasses, and shrubs with nutrients
Dead trees - Homes for wildlife
Air - Needed by living things to breathe.
Sunlight - Used by plants to produce food

4. Why do eagles spend their winters in the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve?

Warm water from an underground reservoir keeps the Chilkat River flowing and provides a home for salmon. The bald eagles come to the preserve to fish during the winter months when other water sources are frozen over.

5. What can we do to protect the bald eagle?

Possible answers include:

Protect their habitat areas (lumbering, human interference, etc.) by setting aside land for preserve or restricting the use of overwintering areas near rivers.
Reduce the use of pesticides that can harm salmon and other animals they eat
Support the ban of DDT (pesticide) that causes thinning of an eagle egg shells.
(NOTE: DDT is outlawed in the US, but not other parts of the world.)
Educate ourselves about eagles and their needs in an environment.
Educate others about the threats to the eagle population (hunting, human interference, deforestation, etc.).