

Name _____ Class _____

People sometimes have a negative impact on ecosystems.
You are going to investigate this in a local ecosystem.

- 1 Choose an impact that you would like to study. Make sure that it is something that you can study without having to use lots of equipment – and be realistic: you can't do chemical analysis or use a decibel monitor!

Impact on an ecosystem of:

- 2 Choose a site in which to study. This will depend on what you've chosen to investigate – don't choose a site where there are no impacts!

Site:

- 3 Write your investigation title in the box below.

An investigation to find out ...

- 4 Plan your investigation. (How are you going to find out what the impacts are? How will you record what you find? Do you want to find out people's opinions about the impacts? Can you find out how the impacts have changed? Do you want to compare two sites?)
- 5 Carry out your investigation. Make sure you draw a detailed field sketch and annotate it. Keep all your data neat and organised so that you can use it later!
- 6 Write up your investigation. You could organise it as follows:

- **Introduction** – in this section write about the theoretical background (a bit about people and ecosystems and your chosen impact generally), then write about the site you chose and include a map.
- **Method** – say how you gathered results and explain why you chose those ways of doing things.
- **Results** – in this section include the field sketch, diagrams, maps and graphs, and describe and try to explain (analyse) the results.
- **Conclusion** – what is the overall answer to your investigation? How could your investigation have been improved? How could other people use what you've found out? How could the impacts be reduced?

