

# Overview of Lessons

## Theme 1: Biotic Communities

**Lesson 1: Biotic Communities Mural:** Students will become experts in different ecosystems, climate zones, and plants across New Mexico and Arizona

**Lesson 2: Local Biotic Community Investigations:** Students will apply what they learned about ecosystems to investigate their local environment

**Lesson 3: Energy in the Ecosystem:** Students will compare how energy stored in carbon bonds is released (burning, rotting, and cellular respiration)

## Theme 2: Biotic Communities, Plants, and Wildland Fire

**Lesson 4a: Fire Safety:** Students learn how to safely conduct experiments and do a home safety check

**Lesson 4: Fuel Properties:** Students observe three fire models and make observations about how fire properties play out

**Lesson 5: Ecosystems, Plants, and Fire Adaptations:** Students read about how different plants and ecosystems evolved with or without fire

**Lesson 6: Fuel Experiment:** Students research, design, and conduct their own fuel and fire experiment in class

**Lesson 7: Fire Regime:** Students use what they learned to determine the fire regime

## Theme 3: Fire Management

**Lesson 8: Indigenous Uses of Fire Management:** Students use tree ring data to learn about how indigenous communities use fire to manage the land

**Lesson 9: Fire Policy and the Community:** Students each research a different community member's perspective on fire and fire management. They debate the way that fire should be managed in their community

**Lesson 10: Recommendations for Wildland Fire Policies:** Students use everything they have learned to create policy recommendations for wildland fire managers in their region

