

Eco-

C

O

L

L

A

P

S

E

Elk
Elk
Wolves
Cougar
Bear
Fish
Birds
Plants
Plants
Plants
Plants
Elk
Elk
Elk
Wolves
Wolves
Cougar
Bear

Directions

Jenga blocks - build tower, each level represents a different level of the ecosystem...plants, herbivores, omnivores, predators, etc. (see sheet with levels labeled above)

Build up as you would in the game, taking one block from any of the levels and placing it on the top ('circle of life', 'food web'). At first space out the blocks removed, prey, plants, and predators...natural removal of individuals. Then add human influence and remove multiple blocks from the same level: whole tower weakens.

Step farther - remove blocks from the entire system...removing wolves from the ecosystem. So the tower doesn't grow/change/adapt...remove most of the 'wolf' level. How weak is the tower?

Then add the 'wolves' back into their level (careful not to topple the whole thing). Does the tower get stronger?