

Lesson 1 Assessment
Oysters: Keystone Species

Part 1

Develop a model that you can use to compare and analyze the ecological levels of an oyster reef ecosystem including individual organisms, populations, communities and the ecosystem. You may choose to create a model similar to the example from the *Oysters: Keystone Species* slideshow or something different. However, your model must include oysters. You can create your model digitally or using paper and classroom supplies. Make sure to read the instructions for Part 2 before you get started, because you will be expected to utilize your model in your response to Part 2.

Part 2

Write a response using evidence and reasoning to support the claim that oysters are a keystone species in the estuary. Be sure to include information about how oysters contribute to ecosystem resilience.