



*Forest Floor Terrarium
Background Information*



Needs of Living Things

Living things need the following to grow and reproduce:

space
water
energy
air

Combine these four with **time** and you have a great acronym--SWEAT.

How does it relate to this activity?

The moist forest floor provides an environment that allows living things to grow and reproduce. The *energy* and *water* stored in decaying matter combined with the *air* and *space* in the terrarium allow for the growth of fungi, bacteria, and small consumers over *time*.

Did you know?

Air satisfies different needs for different living things. While animals use oxygen from the air, plants use carbon dioxide from the air. Some bacteria even use nitrogen from the air!