

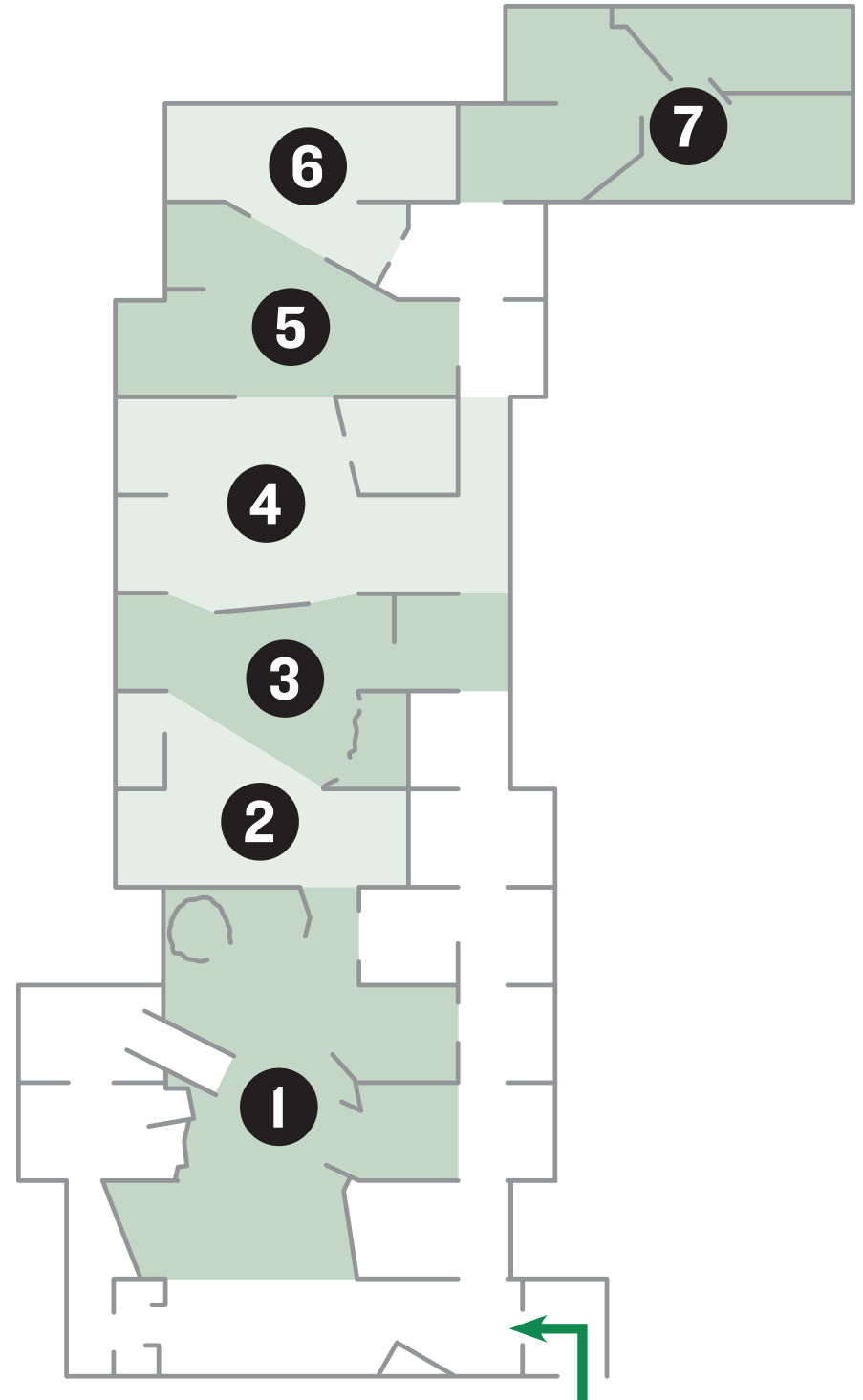
GRADES 3–6

GALLERY OF CALIFORNIA NATURAL SCIENCES

Welcome! Use this guide to explore diverse habitats and become a California naturalist.

- 1** OAKLAND
- 2** SUTTER BUTTES
- 3** SHASTA
- 4** YOSEMITE
- 5** TEHACHAPIS
- 6** COACHELLA VALLEY
- 7** CORDELL BANK

**OM
CA.**



1

OAKLAND

Maps are more than scientific tools. They tell stories.

Choose a map to investigate. Take some time to read the labels and look at the different icons.

TITLE OF MAP: _____

What kind of habitat does the map show? (*circle*)

urban

forest

wetland

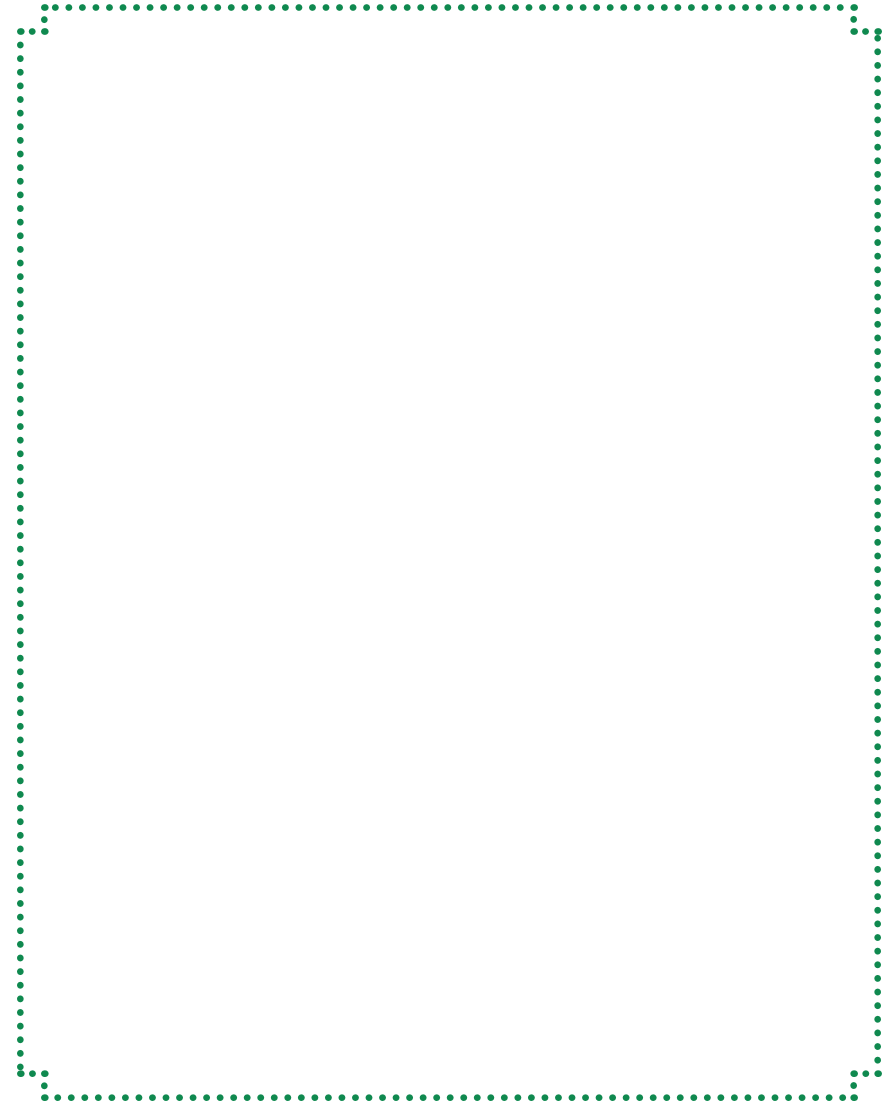
Draw and label the icons you see on the map.

If you made a map of your school or neighborhood, what information would you want to share?



What do you hope your neighborhood will look like in 5 years?
20 years?

Sketch a scene in this section that looks familiar to you. Where have you seen something similar before? What activities do you do there?



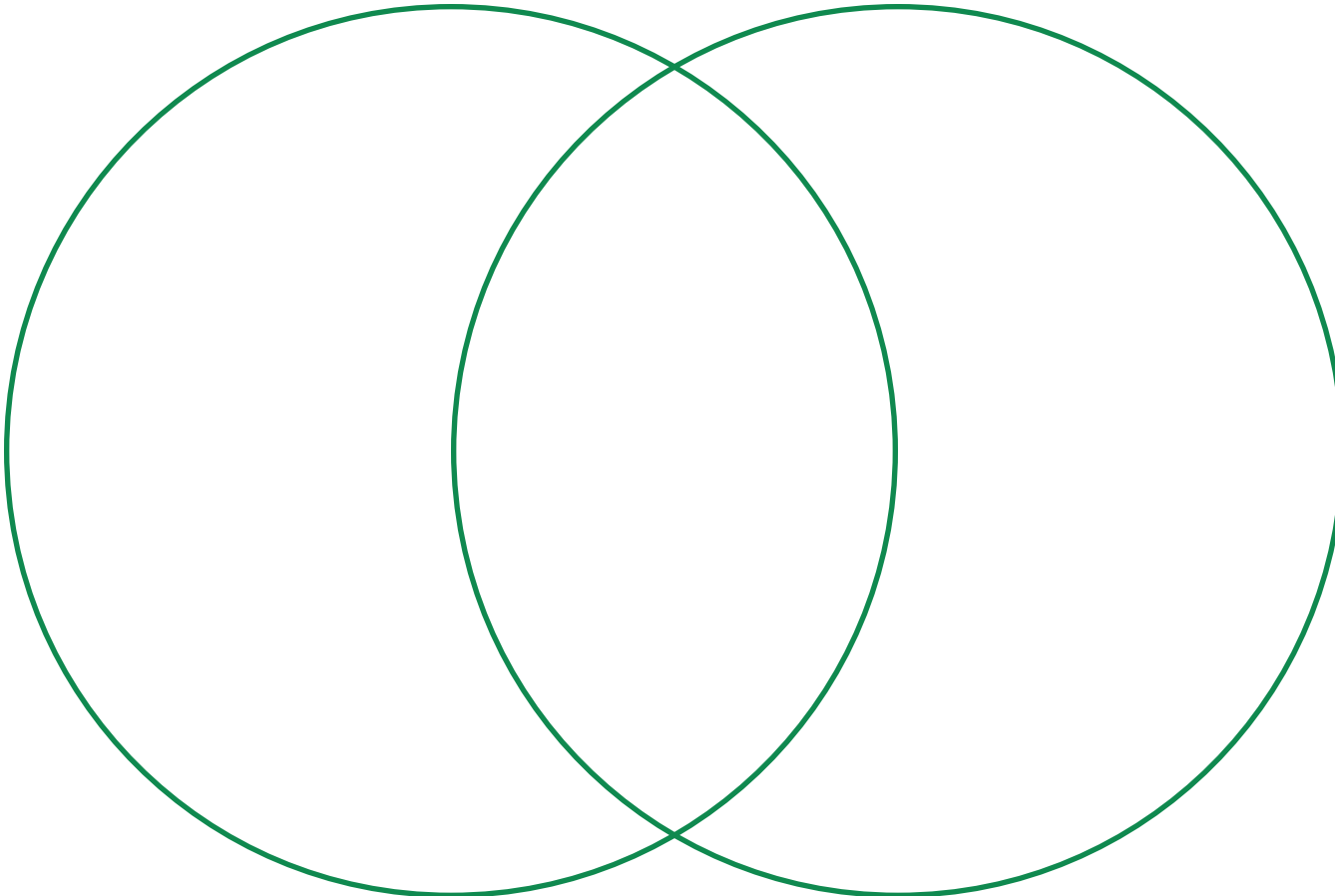
2

SUTTER BUTTES

Find a scene that shows different seasons. Using words or pictures, fill in the Venn diagram below with their differences and similarities.

SEASON: _____

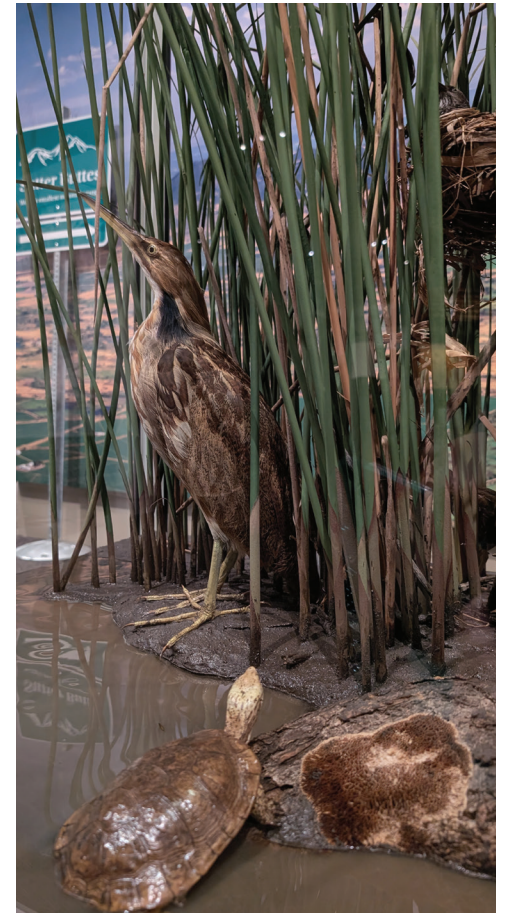
SEASON: _____



How have plants and animals adapted to different seasons here in Sutter Buttes?



How do seasons affect the way animals live here?



Locate the “Water Around the State” map on the wall. **Using the map below, recreate one path water takes from its source to its destination.**



Where does your water come from? How do you think it gets to your school from its source?

Find an animal using water in this section. **Sketch or describe what it is doing.**



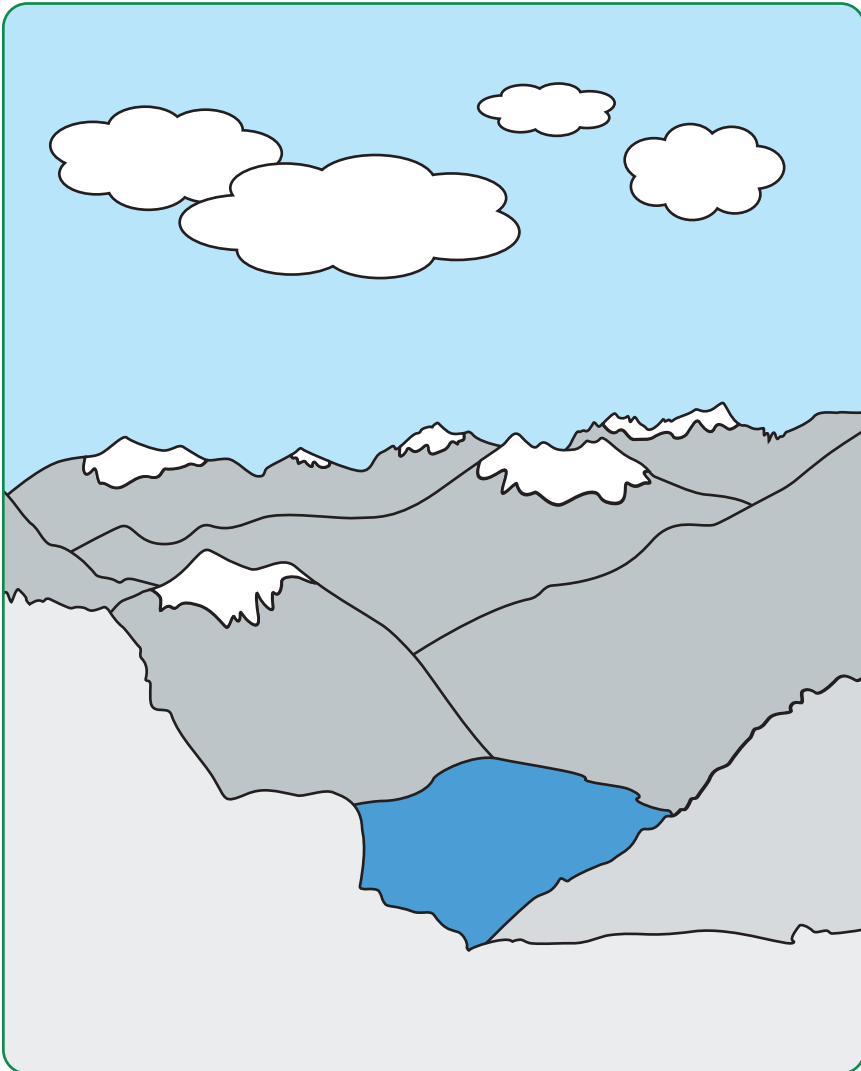
List three ways you use or engage with water during the week.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Find a scene that shows different forms of water in Yosemite. **Add arrows to show the path water takes as it changes between snow, clouds, or lakes.**



Animals adapt to their habitats.

List at least two ways animals' bodies or behaviors have adapted to live in the snow.

1.

2.

Imagine how the habitat in Yosemite might change during a very cold winter or very hot summer. **What might happen to the Yosemite food web?**

BEFORE, NOW, NEXT: Choose a scene in this area and sketch or describe what is happening. Note the type of habitat, which organisms are involved, and what they are doing.

NOW

Sketch or describe what you think happened before.

BEFORE

Sketch or describe what you think will happen next.

NEXT

Some changes in the environment happen naturally, while others are caused by human actions.

Use the markings below to describe the processes listed. (*NOTE: You may use more than one marker.*)

UNDERLINE natural processes.

CIRCLE human actions.

Put a **⚡** next to processes that happen in one month or less.

FIRES

DROUGHT

SEASONS

HUNTING

**BUILDING
ROADS**

**GROWING
FOOD**



How do these processes affect the plants and animals living here?

Plant and animal characteristics and behaviors have adapted to where they live.

In the table below, collect information about two desert plants or animals, and characteristics that make it easier for them to live with little water.

PLANT/ANIMAL	ADAPTATIONS



How are these plants or animals different from what you might see in a forest?

Humans have made a life in the desert.

List three ways humans use water in Coachella. (*HINT: Explore the photomural on the wall in this section.*)

1.

2.

3.



Where do you think the humans get water for their activities?



Most water in the San Francisco Bay Area eventually flows to the Pacific Ocean.

Describe or sketch the journey a raindrop takes from your school to the ocean. What are some places or structures it might travel through to get there?



Take a look at *The Great Conveyor* by Richard and Judith Lang, hanging from the ceiling. It was created using plastic items found on Kehoe Beach in San Francisco. **Identify four items that look familiar to you.**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.



How do you think the plastic ended up on the beach?

List at least two actions you can take to reduce the amount of plastic you use.

1. _____
2. _____