

# FIRE ECOLOGY BOOKLET

## DIRECTIONS

**INTRODUCTION:**

This activity helps us to remember that fire and water are the inanimate partners to a healthy ecosystem. Fire ecology is an important aspect of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) taught to us by the original California Indian groups, like the Mechoopda Maidu, on whose homeland the Museum sits. The Maidu and other Californian Indian groups survived in this area for thousands of years prior to the massive invasion of Europeans. Fire ecology practices include keeping low level fires to reduce brush and bramble from the understory. The understory is revitalized by the combination of ash, moisture release, and carbon dioxide gas by a regular, safe fire regime. After the multiple devastating wildfires in northern California, it is hard to imagine that fire can be a safe and vital part of our ecosystem. TEK practices can keep wildfires rare. Firefighters and state authorities are starting to look to the Native American TEK practices to support our communities and the health of our forests.

**DIRECTIONS:**

- A. Print out the first two pages as double-sided.**
- B. Fold over your booklet. And add your name.**
- C. Print out third page separately.**
- D. Cut out the 6 squares below.**
- E. Using tape or glue, match the words to the pictures in your fire ecology booklet.**
- F. Read your booklet to a family member or out loud to yourself to learn more about fire ecology.**
- G. Take a photo of your booklet and send it to us : [anthromuseum@csuchico.edu](mailto:anthromuseum@csuchico.edu)**

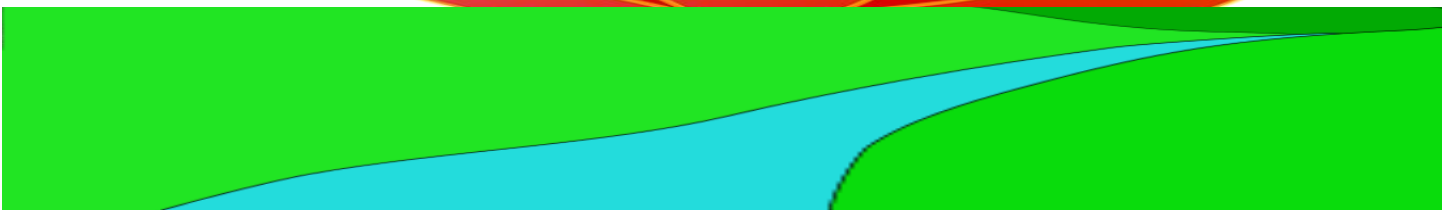
### SEE YOU ONLINE

<p>1.</p> <p>Rivers and creeks flow better when dead trees are cleared by fires.</p>	<p>2.</p> <p>Mature trees thrive and make homes for other life with less brush around.</p>	<p>3.</p> <p>Salmon return</p>
<p>4.</p> <p>Native species grow better when invasive species burn off!</p>	<p>5.</p> <p>Sprouts after a fire bring insects and food back to land</p>	<p>6.</p> <p>Too many trees can drink up water resources.</p>

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**FIRE ECOLOGY:**

**How fire helps forests and streams become healthy habitats for animals and plants.**



1.



2.



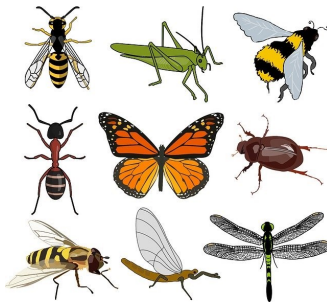
3.



4.



5.



6.



These elements are all part of a healthy habitat that creates a web of life for all to co-exist. Fire and water are not alive but are a vital part of our ecosystem.