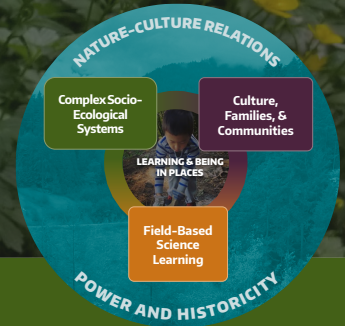




Family Science Learning Engagement



LE 10.A Making decisions around our “Should We” questions

Activity Purpose

Now that you have reflected on your meaning-making from your model, your data (from investigations and community members) and your research on what people already know about your “Should We” question, you’re ready to make a decision about your “Should We” question and share it with others. This activity will take you through some steps to consider as you decide what you should do.

Activity Overview

This activity has 2 parts.

- » **Part 1:** Review your family’s “Should We” question.
- » **Part 2:** Try to decide what your family “should” do, based on your investigations and your analysis of data. The chart in this tool will take you through some things to consider as you make your decision.



What can
you do to
support
learning?

- » This is an opportunity to share your family’s histories and values. You might also explore a familial or cultural practice or decision you make in the same way as previous generations in your family.
- » Considering who your decision will affect is an important part of LE10. Every time you make a decision, others (both humans and more-than-humans) are affected. Some questions you can ask as a family are:
 - What “Should We” question are we asking? Why is that important to our family and community?
 - What are some options that we should consider? Why?
 - Who else’s perspectives and experiences have we considered or heard?
 - What does our analysis of our data suggest to us about which option we should take?
 - What do our values and beliefs as a family or as community members influence decisions we make?

Connecting with other families

- » Decisions are always more powerful when you can gather others in your community to share your decision. This can start with communicating to others in your family, apartment building, cultural community, faith community, or school, amongst many other possibilities. Exploring possible decisions and sharing your decisions with other families in your community will also help you better understand who you will affect with your decisions, and how you can make decisions that are beneficial to the most humans and more-than-humans in your community!

Disciplinary Core Ideas and Important Phenomena

“Engaging in the practices of science helps students understand how scientific knowledge develops; such direct involvement gives them an appreciation of the wide range of approaches that are used to investigate, model, and explain the world.” (NRC Framework 2012, p. 42)

Science Practices Emphasized

- Analyzing and interpreting data
- Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information

Key Ideas & practices

Ethical deliberation and decision-making

Making decisions is complicated! Human communities have always made socio-ecological decisions. From choices about what to eat, where to live, how to get around, to whether water is safe to drink, among many others. These choices are shaped by our values and cultural practices. The socio-ecological decisions we make are so important because we need to take responsibility for how our decisions impact the systems we live in, and the futures we imagine for our communities as well as others.

Analyzing and interpreting data

Often, people think that collecting data is the end of an investigation. However, there is an important step of analysis that requires that you look over all of the data you collected to figure out what decisions you make from the patterns you see in your data. This is the step of asking yourself, “what decisions should I make based on my analysis of data, and why?” This means making decisions that are informed by available evidence.



Photo courtesy Tilt Alliance

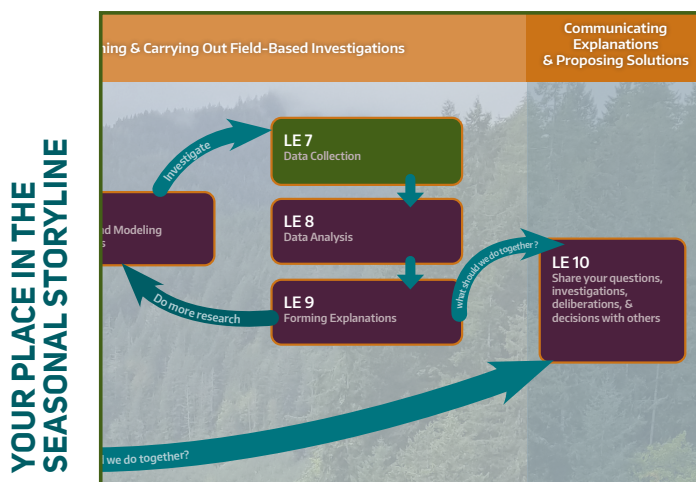
CONNECT TO OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Learning Engagement 9.A: Connecting back to our “Should We” questions
- Learning Engagement 9.B: Returning to our models to ask more questions



LEARNING IN PLACES FRAMEWORKS TO CONSIDER

- Relationships in socio-ecological systems
- Socio-Ecological Decision-Making and Ethical Deliberation





Family deliberation and discussions: What “Should We” do?

You are nearing the end of a Seasonal Storyline investigation and are getting ready to make a decision about your family’s “Should We” question! Use the chart on the next page to guide your family’s deliberations and discussions. You can discuss what you learned in your investigations, as well as which aspects of this decision are important to your family and why.

<p>Why is this “Should We” question important to our family and our community? What are you hoping the decision will accomplish?</p>	
<p>What options are we considering?</p>	<p>Option 1:</p> <p>Reason for considering Option 1:</p> <p>Option 2:</p> <p>Reason for considering Option 2:</p>

<p>What is our decision?</p>	<p>We should _____</p> <p>This decision is supported by these 3 pieces of evidence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence from our outdoor investigations: 2. Evidence from our community interviews: 3. Evidence from other research we have done: <p>Family and community values that are guiding our decision:</p>
<p>Who else's perspectives have we taken into account?</p>	<p>Perspectives that we're taking into account:</p>
	<p>Perspectives that we're still missing:</p>

How are taking the places we live into account when we make our decision?	The places we live are important in this decision because...
How could our decision change our lives--now or in the future?	This decision changes our lives now because...
	This decision changes our lives in the future because...
Who else does this decision affect?	This decision affects the more-than-humans in this place because:
	This decision does NOT benefit:
	This decision affects other people because:

Connection to Power and Historicity	Who has the power to support our decision and help us act on it?
	Who has the power to prevent us from acting on our decision?
	How might our decisions change the way things are in our community and the places we live?
What should we do differently now based on the decision we just made?	We should...
What questions do we want to investigate next?	