

TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS

I. Purpose:

II. Procedure&Materials:

III.Data: what type of data should you collect? # fish collected? # survivors? qualitative data?

Trial 1 – No communication

- A. Individual
- B. Group

Trial 2 – No communication

- A. Individual
- B. Group

Trial 3 - Communication

- A. Individual
- B. Group

IV. Data Analysis

Group needs to decide **two** ways of how they graphically want to represent the data and interpret the results:

- Total # fish collected vs. time for each trial
- Total # survivors vs. time for each trial
- Individual and group average fish collected vs. time for each trial
- Individual and group average survivors vs. time for each trial

V. Conclusion

1. Did the same person harvest the most each time? Explain.
2. How did lack of communication affect your groups' actions and strategies?
3. How did communication affect your groups' actions and strategies?
4. Compare your results with the other groups. Describe how they were they similar/different.
5. Define sustainability. How does it apply to this activity? Was your group effective in sustainably harvesting the goldfish? Explain.
6. What is a renewable vs. a nonrenewable resource? Which category do fish belong to?
7. Mathematically, what is the best strategy for harvesting the common resource?
8. Your fish harvest was worth money. Why would it be better to have money than fish (i.e. what can you do with money that you cannot do with fish)?
9. Describe Tragedy of the Commons. List 3 other shared global resources that are affected by the tragedy of the commons.
10. Go to www.npr.org and search for an audio clip on overfishing. Write the Title, Date and summary of the segment. In your summary, include what is occurring, evidence of what is occurring, possible implications, and possible solutions.
11. Write about your experience during this activity. Frustrations? Rewarding? Etc.

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