**Ecological Footprint**

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Although more people on our planet will undoubtedly put pressure on our limited natural resources it is important to remember that it’s not just about how many of us there are, but how we choose to live.

Today you will use an online calculator to determine your ecofootprint. Your ecofootprint shows the productive area of the Earth it takes to support your lifestyle.

1. Go to the website

<http://www.footprintnetwork.org/>

Click on the tab at the top titled “Footprint Basics” and scroll down to “Personal Footprint”.

1. Take the quiz
2. Make sure you answer the questions in the “Detailed Information” section (the lower half of the questions) instead of the “Basic Information” section wherever possible. You will get a more accurate response that way.
3. When you are finished, record the results below.

**Results**

1. How many Earths would be required if everyone lived as you do?
2. How many global acres does your lifestyle require per year?
3. How many tons of CO2 are produced by your lifestyle per year?
4. Look at the bar graph that is given in your ecological footprint. In the box below, draw out the graph that is given for your footprint. Make sure to:

* Label axes!
* Differentiate between the categories (energy land, crop land, etc.).
* Shade differently so that each bar looks different.

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Answer the following using the bar graph shown.

1. What land do you use the most of from your footprint?
2. What land do you use the least of from your footprint?
3. Why do you think this is?
4. Fill in the pie chart below with the results that you found in your online survey. Make sure to label each section so you know what each pie piece represents! Take the cursor and scroll over each section of the pie to see what percentage each section represents, and write these percentages in the pie piece for each one.

Use the chart above to answer the following questions:

1. Which part of your ecofootprint took up the MOST of your daily activity?
2. What part took up the least?
3. What actions do you do that lead up to the largest portion of your ecofootprint? (ie. Is it the food you eat? Amount you drive? Etc.)
4. What changes in your life do you think would alter your ecofootprint the MOST? The LEAST? Why do you think this?

6. Fill in the chart below. For the first column, write in the data that you had from your original footprint calculation. Then, click on the “edit your footprint” button on the bottom right hand corner of the survey, and find a section that would be EASY to change in your daily life. Answer the questions in that section again, thinking about what you would change in your life, and then get the final calculations. Record those in the next column. Repeat with switching another category using the footprint calculator.

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|  | Original findings | Chose to switch\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Chose to switch\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| How many Earths to provide enough resources? |  |  |  |
| How many global acres does your lifestyle require per year? |  |  |  |
| How many tons of CO2 are produced by your lifestyle per year? |  |  |  |

**Conclusion Questions: Answer in complete sentences!**

1. What do you think the consequence would be if everyone used the same amount of resources as we do in the United States?
2. Use the internet to look up the ecofootprints of 2 developing and 2 developed countries. Describe how they are different and why?