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Module 06: Urban Biodiversity

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## Biodiversity Game - Event Cards

Center for Urban Resilience

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# Urban EcoLab Curriculum

<http://www.urbanecolabcurriculum.com>



## Event Cards

**Module 6, Lesson 6**



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# Event Card #1

## Loss of Habitat – Parking lot

- A new grocery store needs parking spaces, so a parking lot is built over an area of grasses and shrubs.

Consequence: Half of the shrubs of each species are cut down and half of the ground-nesting birds leave, because they have lost their habitat in the grasses and at the base of the lost shrubs.

# Event Card #2

## Adding food and habitat-- Planting Trees

- A local elementary school celebrates Earth Day by planting a Coast live oak in their schoolyard.

Consequence: There is a new tree your community, which attracts 2 crows who nest in the trees and eat the seeds of the tree.

# Event Card #3



[www.treepeople.org/resources-tree-alerts](http://www.treepeople.org/resources-tree-alerts)

## Species introduced – Ambrosia beetles

- A tiny member of the group known as ambrosia beetles, has recently been found in Los Angeles. These beetles burrow into the trunk or branches of a tree creating tunnels or galleries. They lay eggs in these galleries and implants a fungus as food for their developing larvae.

Consequence: Half of the oaks and sycamore trees are injured and cut down before they can fall and cause damage. Half of the community's birds, who were nesting in those trees, leave your community.

# Event Card #4

## Add habitat -- Build a Birdbox

- As a school science project, one of your classmates builds a bird box for the schoolyard.

Consequence: A pair of swallows move in to nest in the box.

# Event Card #5

Replace this text with your own local scenario

- Identify something that happens in your community and how this practice affects something specific (positive or negative).

Consequence: How does the action described affect trees and/or birds

# Event Card #6

## Species introduced – cats

- A family moves out of the neighborhood and into an apartment where animals are not allowed. Since they cannot take their two cats with them, they release them into the streets to live.

Consequence: The cats must now hunt for food. Half of each species of birds are killed.



# Event Card #7

## Change in temperature -- Global warming

- As the temperature rises from global warming, organisms that usually live in warmer climates are able to move north. Because of this, the bark beetle moves into your community.

Consequence: The bark beetles kill half of the eucalyptus trees in your community, causing half of the crows to leave for new nesting grounds.

# Event Card #8

## Change in habitat

- To direct more water from school roofs into open soil, the school replaces 2 rain gutters with rain chains.

Consequence: A quarter of the birds who build mud nests under ledges no longer have enough ledge space for their nests and leave the community.