

## Directions

1. Outcome: At the end of this activity students will understand that there are 4 habitat components that wildlife compete for, and that they are managed by the DNR to be suitably arranged.
2. Ask the audience what 4 habitat components are necessary for a healthy wildlife population. *Food, water, shelter, space*. Space can be shown by cramming the feet of as many people as possible into a hula hoop on the ground. Or by getting very close to several people's faces.
3. Ask if they think it matters if the water is miles away from the shelter or food. Yes? That is what biologists call a suitable arrangement—when all 4 habitat components are juxtaposed well. Manipulating these components is the job of a habitat biologist—to vary habitat, which in turn will adjust specific wildlife populations up or down to meet the need of hunters, fishermen and women, drivers, photographers, farmers and other citizens—since they own/share the wildlife and the DNR and other government agencies take care of the habitat and wildlife for them.
4. Hand out the 5 piece puzzle, explain that the square piece is the cornerstone, and represents arrangement—it's necessary for a healthy habitat—but the puzzle can be completed in a perfect 4 piece square representing poor habitat, or your challenge is to assemble a perfect FIVE piece square representing healthy habitat.
5. Average solve time is 30 minutes! Hint is that arrangement is literally the “cornerstone” in this puzzle—I give that hint after a few minutes. Since the square must be in a corner for the puzzle to work. I let them do it for 5 minutes of class time in teams—then move on—they can continue to play with it while I talk.
6. Hand out the solution at the end of the presentation. I've adapted this to show the 5 most important parts of a public presentation by a scientist too...



