

## Another FACTivity



In this FACTivity, you will create a management objective for your schoolyard. Then you will create an adaptive management process. Review the sidebar titled, “Adaptive Management in Your Life” on page 28. You may also review the adaptive management models on page 5.

### Time Needed

One class period

### Materials

- “At Your Service” article
- A blank piece of paper
- Pencils (one for each student)

### Methods

Working in small groups with other students, draw a circle on your paper. Beginning at the top, write a statement that describes your management objective. Examples of management objectives include: (1) develop a wildflower garden, (2) reduce stormwater runoff from parking lots, (3) improve landscaping at the school’s entrance, and (4) provide habitat for three songbird species. Pretend you are a land manager

practicing adaptive management. Write the cyclical steps you would take to address your management objective. Your teacher should emphasize that adaptive management includes the following four steps:

- Plan (in which a management objective and actions are identified)
- Act (in which a management action is taken)
- Monitor (in which data are collected and analyzed to determine the effect of the management action)
- Evaluate (in which learning occurs and informs the next round of management actions)

Remember that adaptive management does not have an endpoint. Focus on developing a cyclical process where you are learning from experience.

Note that you can use the information and model created in the first FACTivity to help identify management objectives.

Your teacher will hold a class discussion about adaptive management. Explore whether this process could be used in other areas of an individual’s life. You may want to develop an adaptive management process for a personal objective.

Note to Educators: If you are a trained Project Learning Tree (PLT) educator, you may use “Forest Consequences” as an additional activity.



The title “At your service” is a phrase that means “Committed to satisfying you.” How do you think this title relates to the article you read?

## Web Resources

**Ecological Society of America: Ecosystem Services**  
<http://www.esa.org/ecoservices/comm/body.comm.fact.ecos.html>

**Forest Service: Ecosystem Services**  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/ecosystems/services/>

**Natural Inquirer Ecosystem Services edition**  
<http://www.naturalinquirer.org/Ecosystem-Services-Natural-Inquirer-i-26.html>

**Ecological Disturbances**  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disturbance\\_\(ecology\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disturbance_(ecology))