



Article Guide: The Heated Discussion of Climate Change and Wildfires

<http://scienceovereverything.com/2017/11/14/climate-change-wildfires/>

As you read each paragraph:

- Vocabulary – Box vocabulary words or words that you have not seen before
- Focus Questions – Underline in the text where these questions are as you read

Introduction paragraph

1. How many acres were burned in the western United States in 2017? How much damage did wildfires cause in October 2017?

A Natural Process

2. Why are wildfires important for ecosystems?

3. What are two tree species that live in biomes with frequent forest fires? What adaptations do those trees have to survive or reproduce?

<u>Species</u>	<u>Adaptation</u>

4. If forest fires occur to frequently, what kind of problems could the ecosystem experience?

The Effects of Climate Change

5. What two factors have led to drier forests in western North America?

Factor 1: _____

Factor 2: _____

The Effects of Climate Change

6. On average, how much damage do wildfires cause each year?

Discussion

What are some ways that could help prevent fires from occurring, given how climate change is has caused some biomes to become more susceptible to wildfires?

Vocabulary Guide

Wildfire	
Chaparral	
Savanna	
Biome	
Regeneration	
Climate change	
Adaptation	
Precipitation	
Ecosystem	
Arid	
Drought	
Habitat	