

Name:

Date:

Period:

## Borneo Activity - Solve the Ecological Mystery!

In the 1950's a village in Borneo was sprayed with DDT to kill mosquitoes, which were carrying malaria. After the DDT was sprayed, the malaria disappeared, but a lot of other strange things happened. Roofs caved in, cats died and –worst of all- villagers began dying from the Plague. Your job is to figure out why this all happened.

### Procedure:

1. Work with one partner. Collect the first 4 clues from around the room. Write them down.
2. Determine what made the roofs cave in and write down your detailed step by step explanation.
3. Show your explanation to the teacher to see if you are on track.
4. Collect the last 6 clues from around the room and write them down.
5. Write down the explanation of why people got the plague.
6. Show the written explanation to the teacher. Revise until it is correct!

Clue 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Clue 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Clue 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Clue 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Based on the first four clues, explain why the roofs caved in  
(hint: think about food webs + population growth).

When you have written your explanation- check with your teacher.

Collect the last 6 clues.

- Clue 5: \_\_\_\_\_
- Clue 6: \_\_\_\_\_
- Clue 7: \_\_\_\_\_
- Clue 8: \_\_\_\_\_
- Clue 9: \_\_\_\_\_
- Clue 10: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain, using numbered steps, why villagers got the plague (use lots of explanation!!)

*(Hint: When an animal eats another animal, it also eats the chemicals that are on the food. If one gecko ate 10 cockroaches, it would get 10 times as much DDT as the cockroach. This is called biological magnification.)*