PolarTREC HERMYS (Historical Ecology and Risk Management: Youth Sustainability)

**OBJECTIVE:** Students will identify the primary environmental threats in their region.

**MATERIALS:**

* *10+ poster cards (11” x 3”)*
* *Thick marker(s) (water-based or permanent)*
* *Hole-punch*
* *Yarn (25’)*
* *Open space*
* *Good music*
* *Several Rowdy kids*

**PROCEDURE:**

 **\*\*\* this lesson is to be done after the narrative pantomime lesson (lesson 1).**

**The Lesson:**

1. Prepare a set of cards with enough for each student to have one (see the *excel* file that goes along with this lesson). Every location may have their own risk hazards due to geography, but the point is to prepare as many ***different*** examples as possible, including risk hazards NOT associated with your location. Each card will have an example written on it. These should include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Earthquake

- Tornado

- Hurricane

- Flood

- Wild fire

- Drought

- Storm Surge

- Ice shove

- Tundra Fire

- Blizzard

- Tsunami

- Threats to Subsistence (hunting/gathering)

- Feel free to add more!

1. For each risk-hazard, provide a card that has a definition of the phenomenon (Example: a series of vibrations in the Earth that occur due to a shift in tectonic plates) and a photograph.
2. If the group is small, you can set this up as a matching game with the cards. Otherwise, each child should receive a card.
3. (5 min.) Explain that the objective is to form a group of 3 – children should be looking for the matching set of risk-hazard, definition, and picture. Help struggling children to find their partners.
4. (15 min.) Once all groups have been created, have each group read their risk-hard, then the definition, and lastly describe the picture.
5. (10 min.) Once all of the risk-hazards have been discussed, and the children know what they are, have a discussion about which risk-hazards affect you all in your location.
6. Pass out the already-prepared cards with the string attached. For the risk-hazards that could affect your area, choose a student to write out the name of the hazard on the card and wear it around their neck.

1. (10 minutes) Discuss which hazards are the most common and have the students with their cards stand in order from highest risk to least risk.