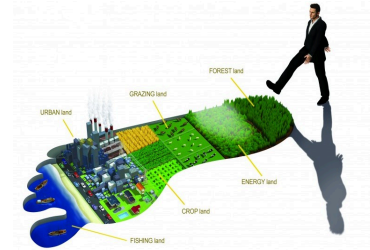


Ecological Footprints

AP Environmental Science [Background Info video \(3 min\)](#)

You will determine how much land (in hectares or acres) that it takes to support your present lifestyle.

Go to www.footprintnetwork.org



A. GLOBAL FOOTPRINT NETWORK- Website Overview

1. Read- Click on OUR WORK- Ecological Footprint. **Always bold your answers or post them in color.** Scroll down....what is the difference between biocapacity and the ecological footprint?

Ecological footprint measures how much natural resources would be necessary to support an individual's or a population's lifestyle. Biocapacity, on the other hand, measures how productive an area's ecological assets may be.

2. Scroll... What exactly does the footprint measure?

Measures how fast we consume resources and therefore generate waste. This includes timber and paper, energy, seafood, and shelter, amongst other things.

3. Scroll.....How is the United States doing? In OPEN DATA Window, Click- Visit Footprint Explorer.

Not very good, biocapacity per person is considerably lower than the ecological footprint per person

4. Scroll.....

FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR- Select "Calculate my Footprint". Follow the directions to calculate your ecological footprint by taking the quiz. Take the First Step....Select: ADD DETAILS TO IMPROVE ACCURACY—Answer for your Family.

B. Analyze your Results:

1. When is your Overshoot Day? What does this mean?

08 April; if everyone lived like me, we would have used as many resources from nature that it can renew within a year by that day.

2. How many earths did it take to support your lifestyle? How many global acres of the Earth's productive area?

3.7 Earths; 6.1 global hectares

3. See DETAILS What is your Ecological Footprint?

6.1

4. What is your Carbon Footprint? What percent of your Ecofootprint is Carbon?

9.3

53%

5. What are the major areas taken into consideration to make this calculation? What is the “footprint” actually calculating? Which areas consume most of your footprint? Describe each.

Food, shelter, mobility, goods, services

Biologically productive area to provide everything I consume

Food and shelter make up most of my ecological footprint

6. RETAKE THE QUIZ: Click on the button to retake the quiz and see if you can reduce your consumption levels. How low could you reasonably get? What changes did you make to get there?

Become a vegetarian

Eat more unprocessed, unpackaged, or locally grown foods

Utilize more public transportation

More gas-efficient car and more carpooling

Live in a smaller apartment instead of a larger house

C. EXPLORE SOLUTIONS: Click on the Explore Solutions.

1. Describe two ways you could reduce your footprint.

I could use renewable energy for power and live in a smaller house.

2. What are some simple actions you could take to change/improve your footprint? In your own home? Locally? And Nationally?

Reuse, don't buy things I can't repurpose

Turn off all power when I don't need it

Support nearby farms when accessible

Educate others on the subject matter

Wrap up---- Base on what you've learned about the Human Ecological Footprint, Make a Claim, present some evidence that supports your claim, and then explain or reason how your evidence supports your claim. [CER Poster](#) (*this can be found in Blue Course Overview Folder too*)

C- Make a Claim	Most Americans do not live a sustainable lifestyle.
E-Evidence	According to the Global Footprint Network, Americans' average ecological footprint per person is more than double of nature's biocapacity per person.
R-Reasoning	This proves that Americans are using more natural resources than their land can support and replenish. At this rate, all resources will be used up as consumerism thrives.