

The Day They Parachuted Cats into Borneo

This activity demonstrates the importance of connections among the different biotic and abiotic components in an ecosystem. It also illustrates how difficult it is for humans to identify these components and their relationships.

The following events occurred on the island of Borneo. Arrange them in chronological order.

- Cat population was wiped out
- Cats caught lizards containing DDT
- Caterpillar numbers went up
- Caterpillars ate grass thatch roofs
- Lizard population was wiped out
- Lizards ate roaches containing DDT
- Lizards slowed down
- Mosquito population was wiped out
- Mosquitoes brought malaria
- Parasitic wasp population was wiped out
- Rat population increased
- Rats brought the sylvatic plague and typhus
- Roaches stored DDT in their bodies
- World Health Organization parachuted cats into Borneo
- World Health Organization sent DDT to Borneo