

# Deeper Depths Activities

On a separate sheet, complete these prompts to increase your knowledge about the Eastern Indigo Snake's habitat—the Longleaf Pine Forest.

## THE FOUR ESSENTIALS

Pick an animal or two from the coloring page and look up its Four Essentials: What does it eat? Where does it get water from? What kind of shelter does it need? How does it raise its young?



Food



Water



Cover (shelter)



Place to raise young

## PINEWOOD FORESTS ARE SPECIAL PLACES.

Investigate characteristic of a pinewood forest. Where are pinewood forests found? What is the climate, temperature range, precipitation level? What species of plants and animals live there? Are there any pinewood forests near where you live?

## COOPERATION FOR CO-EXISTENCE.

The gopher tortoise is a keystone species of the pinewood forest. Investigate what is meant by the term "keystone species". What behaviors does the gopher tortoise exhibit that makes them so important to the pinewood forest inhabitants? Identify species on the coloring page that benefit from having gopher tortoises in their habitat.

## KEEPING SAFE SPACE FOR WILDLIFE

Research conservation issues on pinewood forests and the species that live there. Make a list of conservation actions people can take to protect and preserve this essential environment.

## WHO EATS WHOM IN THE PINEWOOD FOREST?

Create a food chain using four or more species. Take this one step further and find several food chains to create a food web. If one of the species is removed, how many other animals are affected?

## ADAPTATIONS HELP AN ANIMAL SURVIVE IN ITS ENVIRONMENT.

Select a species on the coloring page and research its physical and behavioral adaptations. How do its adaptations assist survival in a pinewood forest? Identify other animals on the coloring page that share these adaptations. Is there competition for resources among the species? If so, how do they adapt their behavior to successfully share the space?