

Name: _____

Block: _____

Tragedy of the Commons



Today you will be fishing for goldfish! The goal today is to leave with the most goldfish. **DO NOT EAT THE GOLDFISH UNTIL THE ACTIVITY IS FINISHED!**

Directions:

- Each table is a lake. Each lake has a carrying capacity of 40 goldfish. This means your lake will never hold more than 40 fish.
- You are a fisherman, or fisherwoman, trying to catch the most fish each season. You will have a chance to fish multiple seasons, each season is 10 seconds. Using the straw, you will try to catch (suck up) as many fish as you can for the season. If you caught no fish, you're out of business :(
- At the end of each season, count how many fish remain in the lake. However many are left, add that many more to the lake BUT DO NOT EXCEED 40! (If there are 10 left, add 10 more; if there are 25 left, only add 15 more).
- Wait for Father Time (Mr. Smedes) to tell you when the season is starting.

Fishers (Group Members)	<i>Season 1</i>	<i>Season 2</i>	<i>Season 3</i>	<i>Season 4</i>	<i>Season 5</i>	<i>Season 6</i>	<i>Season 7</i>	<i>Season 8</i>	Total Fish
Total Fish Harvested for the Season									

1. Did you stay in business all 8 seasons?
2. Do you think you could stay in business for the next 10 seasons based off of your harvesting each season? Why or why not?
3. Google "maximum sustainable yield" and define it below in your own words. What would the maximum sustainable yield be for this simulation?
4. In your own words, **explain** the Tragedy of the Commons in 2 sentences.
5. What are some global resources besides fish in the oceans that experience the Tragedy of the Commons? (Hint: think of things that lots of different people use)
6. **Propose a solution** to the problem of overfishing in the ocean.