

Answer Guide Exploring Michigan

1. **The Kirtland Warbler's nest should be at the base of the tree (so on the ground instead of on a high branch like most bird's nests are).**
2. **The Eastern Massasauga rattlesnake is located in the wetlands.** They warn other animals (that includes people!) to stay away from the sound they make with their tails.
3. **Marsh: third image** with soft-stemmed grass,
Swamp: first image with trees and shrubs,
Bog: second image with decaying vegetation and sphagnum moss.

Each type of wetland has specific types of plants that are able to grow and survive because of the different features of each.
4. **The litter is in the Oak-Hickory diorama.** The different ecosystems are the homes of many different plants and animals. To make sure that they are protected, and our planet is protected, it's important to not litter and keep everything clean.
5. **The living things are the ring-billed gull and the hognose snake. The non-living things have none of the characteristics of life, so that would be the sand and the water.**

Grades K-2

6. **The ones living in the environment: Skunk, Turtle, and Bear.** The squirrel and Poison Ivy are part of the Oak-Hickory diorama.
7. **The answer to this question can vary other than the plant with three leaves, which is Poison Ivy.**
8. **The Great Lakes are important because they are an important and large source of clean water (for drinking). It is also part of many different ecosystems, so humans aren't the only ones that rely on them. The answer to the second part of the question will vary, but it will most likely be Lake Erie if they are from Washtenaw County.**
9. **The answer to this question is open-ended and will vary from student to student.**