**Ecology Facts, Quotes and Journal Prompts**

The fact and prompt should be written on the board, and students should copy both items into their journal.

The rules for in class journaling are as follows:

* + - Do not stop moving your hand for the entire time given to write.
    - Do not stop and re-read your work.
    - Do not edit or worry about any grammatical or spelling errors.
    - Let your mind wonder and practice the art of simply recording the thoughts that present themselves.
    - If you get stuck, write single words, write rhyming words, write the same word over and over keep pushing until a flow is found.
    - Details, details, details
    - Breathe

**The Focus:** Read the fact or Quote outloud. Think about the idea presented, and allow this to be the starting point of the journal. Use the prompt lead in to begin the entry and then run with the ideas and inspirations which present themselves.

1. **FACT:** “Urban ecosystems occupy only about 2% of the land surface area of the planet, but provide a home for half of the world’s population. That is about 3 billion people. In the United States, more than three-quarters [75%] of the people live in urban areas.” — Dr. Penny Firth

**PROMPT:** “Within these crowded streets…”

1. **FACT:** “In 1950 there were only TWO megacities with 10 million inhabitants or more. Today there are 21 megacities”

**PROMPT:** “This city is spilling over with life, like a…”

1. **FACT:** “Visual contact with vegetation has been shown to improve health, reduce postoperative recovery times, increase employee satisfaction, and reduce stress.” — *Healing Gardens: Therapeutic Benefits and Design Recommendations.*

**PROMPT:** “The green seeping through this city scene…”

1. **QUOTE:** “When we contemplate the whole globe as one great dewdrop, striped and dotted with continents and islands, flying through space with other stars all singing and shining together as one, the whole universe appears as an infinite storm of beauty.” — John Muir

**PROMPT:** “The storm of beauty that surrounds me…”

1. **QUOTE:** “A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people.” — Franklin D. Roosevelt

**PROMPT:** “The dirt of this earth is…”

1. **FACT:** “Cities can be important habitats for a diverse bee [population]; bees in urban and suburban settings have a richer, healthier diet than bees in modern intensive farmland settings.”

**PROMPT:** “Bees in my city, be like…”

1. **QUOTE:** “Buildings, too, are children of Earth and Sun.” — Frank Lloyd Wright

**PROMPT: “**My city is a home grown…”

1. **QUOTE:** “There are an awful lot of scientists today who believe that before very long we shall have unraveled all the secrets of the universe. There will be no puzzles anymore. To me, it’d be really, really tragic because I think one of the most exciting things is this feeling of mystery, feeling of awe, the feeling of looking at a little live thing and being amazed by it and how it has emerged through these hundreds of years of evolution and there it is and it is perfect and why.” — Jane Goodall

**PROMPT:** “The mysteries of this city that lay before me, are…”

1. **FACT:** One large tree can provide a supply of oxygen for two people.. — Mike McAliney

**PROMPT:** “I breathe what the trees give me, I believe…”

1. **QUOTE:** “Consider a tree for a moment. As beautiful as trees are to look at, we don't see what goes on underground - as they grow roots. Trees must develop deep roots in order to grow strong and produce their beauty. But we don't see the roots. We just see and enjoy the beauty. In much the same way, what goes on inside of us is like the roots of a tree.” — Joyce Meyer

**PROMPT:** “The roots of me, like the roots of this city…”

1. **QUOTE:** “Buildings, too, are children of Earth and Sun.” — Frank Lloyd Wright

**PROMPT:** “We grew this city from…”