As you observed in the video Strange Days on Planet Earth small changes, (invasive species or temperature changes) can have devastating effects to an ecosystem. This project you will research how temperature changes, invasive species or landscaping choices affect ecosystems in Arizona.

Investigate the effects of landscaping choices in your community. Xeriscape or green lawns.

6 points

* 1. Investigate the temperature effects of the two different types of landscaping.
     1. Explain how each type of landscaping affects the ground and air temperatures during the morning and Evening. Hint use outdoor thermometers (one on the ground and one at least five feet off of the ground) and check them twice a day
        1. What is the air and ground temperature of a house with
           1. Green front and back yards
           2. Desert landscaping
        2. What do you think is the significance of the temperature differences are to the environment? Support your answer with research.

6 points

* 1. Research the typical use of water for each type of yard.
     1. Does one type of yard use more water?
     2. Does your association dictate plant usage?
        1. How does that affect water use and temperature?
        2. Does the association require plants to be green all year? How does that affect water usage?

3 points

* 1. Pick one plant nursery and research what percent of the plants they sell are native.
     1. Give a plausible affect to the environment, the use of non-native plants in landscaping has on the environment.
        1. Think of water use, effect to native plants and environments.

You need to include citations

Websites to get you started

Temperature effects

<http://dcdc.asu.edu/research/impactofUHI.pdf>

<http://www.ibpsa.us/pub/simbuild2010/papers/SB10-DOC-TS05A-01-Rosheidat.pdf>

<http://azstarnet.com/news/science/environment/article_976f6920-74b4-5241-8a51-b40e1e605d44.html>

<http://www.appinsys.com/GlobalWarming/Phoenix_UrbanHeat.htm>

<http://www.asprs.org/publications/pers/2005journal/may/2005_may_613-621.pdf>