

## 2. Mass Extinction: Known and Unknown Factors

### Prep Exercise

1) Take a walk through a forest, near farms, or in your garden and observe the eco- system from the top down. Look at your trees/plants, insects and animals carefully. Do this without distraction (cell phones/ear buds, people talking, etc). Feel the sun/ elements, smell the smells, and find a place to sit for a while. If you are in an area with people you can observe them as well. Notice if they look around as well - or not. Look to see what “distracts” them or holds their attention.\*

\* If you have already done this for section 1 you may not feel the need, but you can always go to another location or go out in the evening as well and observe animals/ insects/lights and plants.

### Q and A

- What is the difference between average/natural and mass extinction event?
- What are the general factors driving today's mass extinction event?