**Systems Analysis: Decision Trees**

After completing this activity you will be able to:

* Construct a simple decision tree

**Step 1: In small groups (2-3 students) – Review the following narrative and construct a decision tree**

As most bacon lovers will tell you, bacon is just a little taste of heaven on earth but some people don not yet realize that they should love bacon and eat it every day so this is how you should decide if you should eat bacon or not. First, do you want to feel like angles are frolicking on your taste buds? If the answer to this question is “Yes” then just eat it! If your answer to this question is “No” then you’ve clearly never eaten bacon. Do yourself a favor and just eat it. Whatever you do, don’t read the actual ingredients in bacon. It’s not scrapple but still, don’t read the ingredients. If you want to feel like angels are frolicking on your taste buds but are afraid that bacon will kill you then you must ask yourself if you are a coward. If you are not a coward then just go ahead and eat it. If you are a coward then what you should do is eat the bacon because bacon will turn you into a true warrior

Please create a decision tree that answers the question, “should you eat that bacon?” here:

**Step 2: In small groups (2-3 students) – Review the following narrative and construct a decision tree.**

We’ve all been there. You drop food on the floor and in an instant must decide if you are going to pick it up and eat it or not. There are a few things to think about. The first thing you need to think about is if it was sticky. It wasn’t then there may be good reasons to eat it. For example, let’s say you dropped an emausaurus on the ground. Emausaurus is a tasty little dinosaur and if you happen to be a megalosaurus then certainly gobble it up. If you are not a megalosaurus then you might want to pass on the emausaurus. If it was not emausaurus then you need to make sure your cat didn’t lick it before you got to it. If the cat didn’t lick it then it might be a good snack. Heck, even if the cat did lick it and your cat is healthy then why not eat it? If it was a little sticky you need to ask if it was raw steak. You don’t want to waste that but you really need to be able to digest it so if it was raw steak and you are a puma then go ahead and eat it. If you’re not a puma then it probably isn’t a good idea so don’t eat it. If it is not raw steak you need to know if your cat licked it. If you get to it before your cat then go for it and chow down. If your cat did beat you to it then it is not hopeless. If you’re your cat is healthy then it is probably fine so help yourself but if your cat isn’t healthy then you should probably pass on this little snack. Back to food that isn’t sticky…for this you need to know of anyone saw you drop the food on the ground. If someone say you and it wasn’t your boss or your lover or your parent then go ahead and eat it. It will be just fine. It is was one of those people and the food was expensive you should see if you can cut off the part that touched the floor and if you can, cut the dirty part off and eat the rest. If you can’t then it’s really your call. If it isn’t expensive you probably don’t want to eat it unless of course it is bacon. As we learned in the previous activity, if it is bacon then just eat it but if it is anything else you shouldn’t eat it.