

Ecosystem Unit: Created by Rachael Coleman 2017

Ecosystem Student Notes

Ecosystems is the interaction of _____ with _____ and with the _____.

Ecosystems include biotic – _____ and abiotic – _____ parts.

Examples of biotic-

Examples of abiotic-

Ecology – the study of _____. Example of ecosystems are:

Different ecosystems in Utah

Forest - deciduous, coniferous or oftentimes a mixture of both, in which some trees _____ their leaves each fall, while others remain _____ year-round.

Grassland – in _____ regions, although they can exist in colder areas as well, Grasslands share the common climactic characteristic of semi-aridity. Trees are _____ but flowers may be interspersed with the grasses. Grasslands provide an ideal environment for _____ animals.

Desert - The common defining feature among desert ecosystems is _____, generally less than 25 centimeters (_____)

per year. Not all deserts are _____ -- desert ecosystems can exist from the _____ to the _____, but regardless of latitude, deserts are often _____. Some deserts contain _____, while others feature mostly _____. Vegetation is _____ and any animal species, such as insects, reptiles and birds, must be _____ to the dry conditions.

Freshwater ecosystems - can be found in _____ They are subdivided into two classes: those in which the water is _____, such as ponds, and those in which the water _____, such as creeks. Freshwater ecosystems are home to more than just fish: algae, plankton, insects, amphibians and underwater plants also inhabit them.

Marine ecosystems- differ from freshwater ecosystems in that they contain _____, which usually supports different types of species than does _____. Marine ecosystems are the most _____ types of ecosystems in the world. They encompass not only the _____ and surface but also _____, estuaries, salt marshes and saltwater swamps, mangroves and _____.

Name 3 animals that might live in a marine environment and list 3 adaptations of each animal?

What adaptations would plants need to live in the desert?

When resources (either biotic or abiotic) are limited, populations _____, and the whole _____ can be affected.

The less diverse an organism's diet the more likely they are to go _____.

Limiting factors- _____ and environmental factors that _____ the growth of organisms

Symbiotic relationships are a special type of interaction between _____.

Sometimes beneficial, sometimes harmful, these **relationships** are essential to many organisms and ecosystems, and they provide a _____ that can only be achieved by working together.

Cards with food web

Predation- one _____ one _____ (usually dies)

Mutualism - (think win-win) both _____

Commensalism- one _____ the other isn't _____

Most food webs don't include the _____ (it's understood, unless at the bottom of the ocean). Most food webs don't include _____ (like fungi) which makes the food web more like a cycle of energy.

Niche- the role an organism _____ in it's _____

Describe your niche at home

Habitat- where an organism _____

Describe your habitat

Every ecosystem needs to have an organism that _____ food and _____ dead stuff

Producers- organism that use the sun to _____ food

Competition- when different organisms _____ for the same _____ (like tall trees trying to reach the sunlight) List two other examples:

Consumer- an organism that _____ another organism for _____

Secondary Consumers - consumers that eat _____

Tertiary Consumers- _____ at the top of the _____

Recycler- an organism that recycles _____ back into the ecosystem

When competition is fierce, organisms _____, _____, or populations

Food Chain- is just 1 line of _____

Food Web – always starts with a producer and ends with a consumer. (even though a recycler would bring it all back to a cycle). It includes _____ of energy transfer.

Arrow _____ points to where energy is _____

Stability- a population/ecosystem has reached a _____ and will remain _____ until a _____.