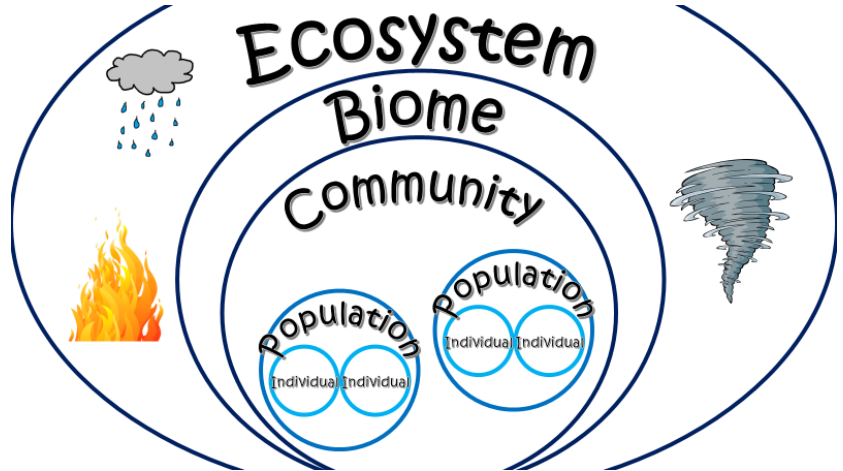


Ecosystems

- An ecosystem is a _____ of interacting organisms and their environment.
- The _____ of an ecosystem could be anywhere from the insects living under a rock to the entire ocean!
- Ecosystems include _____ and nonliving things.
- Some living things in an ecosystem are plants, animals, and _____.
- Nonliving things in an ecosystem would be soil, _____, air, _____, weather, water, and environmental disturbances.
- The number of turtles, or other organisms of the _____ kind, that live together in the same place is called a _____.
- Where a living organism makes its _____ is called a habitat.
- A _____ is all populations of organisms that live together in the same area.
- Populations _____ on each other.
- A biome is a community of plants and animals that have _____ characteristics and needs.
- Ecosystems look at the interactions between _____ and _____ things in the environment.



Biomes

Wetlands

- A biome where _____ covers the soil for most of the year
- Can prevent _____ in areas by holding excessive amounts of water
- Home to many different types of plants and animals, most of which depend on the _____ in some way
- Wetlands are often _____, which is where a body of fresh water meets a body of salt water
- Some wetlands can be considered a part of the freshwater biome
- Other freshwater biomes include _____, ponds, _____, streams, and spring

Temperate Forest

- An ecosystem with many _____; _____ summers and _____ winters
- _____ trees will lose their leaves in the fall and will sprout new leaves in the spring
- Tree _____ and leaves create a canopy; Ferns, vines, and other plants that do not require much sunlight grow beneath the _____
- Birds and _____ are very common

Taiga

- Living organisms in the taiga have found ways to _____ to the colder winter
- The leaves on the trees (_____) do not fall off and will keep their green color year-round.

- Animals grow a _____ coat to keep themselves warm

Rainforest

- _____ and warm all year long
- The trees at the top receive the most sunlight, but they _____ sunlight from reaching the trees beneath them
- The shrubs that grow at the _____ survive without much sunlight
- _____ have adapted to reach sunlight by growing on trees

Desert

- A sandy, _____ ecosystem with little rainfall and little plant life
- Some deserts are very _____ while others are very _____
- Plants and animals have adapted to _____ with little food and water
- For example, camels can store _____ and _____ in their bodies and make it last a long time
- Deserts that are very hot cool down _____ once the sun has disappeared
- This is because there are no _____ to trap in the heat

Grassland (savannah)

- _____ are the main plant life
- _____ (from lightning strikes) are common because they can spread easily
- _____ include giraffes, antelopes, gazelles, elephants, and zebras
- _____ include lions, hyenas, and meerkats

Polar (tundra)

- Very, very _____ year-round
- Includes animals such as penguins, polar bears, whales, fish, seals, sea lions, and other birds
- Not much _____ can grow in these regions
- _____ must be good swimmers to catch their food
- Polar bears, penguins, and seals are all _____ and are excellent swimmers
- In an area of the polar biome, called a *tundra*, the snow and ice will _____ during summer
- The ground stays frozen, but there is a small amount of soil above it that allows plants to grow
- Instead, plant-like organisms called _____ will grow on rocks
- Closer to the poles, plants cannot survive

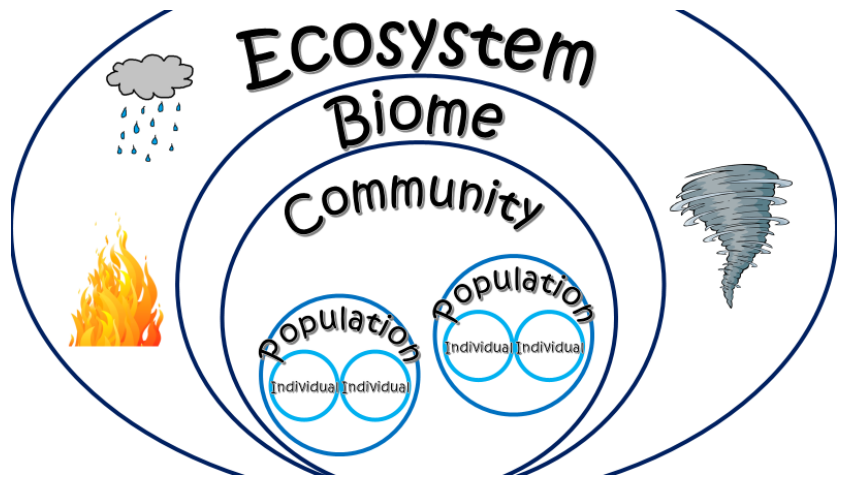
Marine

- The biggest biome in the world!
- Our oceans cover _____ of the Earth
- Very _____ water
- Some organisms live closer to the water's surface while others live _____ below the water's surface
- There are species of organisms in our oceans that we haven't even _____ yet!

My Brain Check Answers: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

Ecosystems

- An ecosystem is a **community** of interacting organisms and their environment.
- The **size** of an ecosystem could be anywhere from the insects living under a rock to the entire ocean!
- Ecosystems include **living** and nonliving things.
- Some living things in an ecosystem are plants, animals, and **people**.
- Nonliving things in an ecosystem would be soil, **rocks**, air, **climate**, weather, water, and environmental disturbances.
- The number of turtles, or other organisms of the **same** kind, that live together in the same place is called a **population**.
- Where a living organism makes its **home** is called a habitat.
- A **community** is all populations of organisms that live together in the same area.
- Populations **depend** on each other.
- A biome is a community of plants and animals that have **similar** characteristics and needs.
- Ecosystems look at the interactions between **living** and **nonliving** things in the environment.



Biomes

Wetlands

- A biome where **water** covers the soil for most of the year
- Can prevent **flooding** in areas by holding excessive amounts of water
- Home to many different types of plants and animals, most of which depend on the **water** in some way
- Wetlands are often **estuaries**, which is where a body of fresh water meets a body of salt water
- Some wetlands can be considered a part of the freshwater biome
- Other freshwater biomes include **lakes**, ponds, **rivers**, streams, and spring

Temperate Forest

- An ecosystem with many **trees**; **Warm** summers and **cold** winters
- **Deciduous** trees will lose their leaves in the fall and will sprout new leaves in the spring
- Tree **limbs** and leaves create a canopy; Ferns, vines, and other plants that do not require much sunlight grow beneath the **canopy**
- Birds and **insects** are very common

Taiga

- Living organisms in the taiga have found ways to **adapt** to the colder winter
- The leaves on the trees (**conifers**) do not fall off and will keep their green color year-round.

- Animals grow a thicker coat to keep themselves warm

Rainforest

- Rainy and warm all year long
- The trees at the top receive the most sunlight, but they block sunlight from reaching the trees beneath them
- The shrubs that grow at the bottom survive without much sunlight
- Epiphytes have adapted to reach sunlight by growing on trees

Desert

- A sandy, rocky ecosystem with little rainfall and little plant life
- Some deserts are very hot while others are very cold
- Plants and animals have adapted to survive with little food and water
- For example, camels can store water and fat in their bodies and make it last a long time
- Deserts that are very hot cool down quickly once the sun has disappeared
- This is because there are no clouds to trap in the heat

Grassland (savannah)

- Grasses are the main plant life
- Fires (from lightning strikes) are common because they can spread easily
- Herbivores include giraffes, antelopes, gazelles, elephants, and zebras
- Carnivores include lions, hyenas, and meerkats

Polar (tundra)

- Very, very cold year-round
- Includes animals such as penguins, polar bears, whales, fish, seals, sea lions, and other birds
- Not much vegetation can grow in these regions
- Predators must be good swimmers to catch their food
- Polar bears, penguins, and seals are all Carnivores and are excellent swimmers
- In an area of the polar biome, called a *tundra*, the snow and ice will melt during summer
- The ground stays frozen, but there is a small amount of soil above it that allows plants to grow
- Instead, plant-like organisms called lichens will grow on rocks
- Closer to the poles, plants cannot survive

Marine

- The biggest biome in the world!
- Our oceans cover 70% of the Earth
- Very salty water
- Some organisms live closer to the water's surface while others live miles below the water's surface
- There are species of organisms in our oceans that we haven't even discovered yet!

My Brain Check Answers: 1. A 2. D 3. C 4. B