

Vocabulary – Ecosystem/Adaptation

ecosystem – the living and nonliving things in an environment and all their interactions

biotic factor – the living part of an ecosystem

abiotic factor – the nonliving part of an ecosystem

habitat – the home of an organism

population – all the members of a single type of organism in an ecosystem

community – all the populations in an ecosystem

producer – an organism, such as a plant, that makes its own food

consumer – an organism that cannot make its own food

decomposer – an organism that breaks down wastes and the remains of other organisms into simpler substances

food chain – the path that energy takes from one organism to another in the form of food

food web – the food chains that overlap in an ecosystem

competition – the struggle among living things for water, food, or other resources

energy pyramid – a diagram that shows the amount of energy available at each level of a food web in an ecosystem

adaptation – a trait that helps a living thing survive in its environment

hibernate – to rest or sleep through the cold winter

camouflage – an adaptation by which an animal can hide by blending in with its surroundings

mimicry – an adaptation in which one kind of organism has similar traits to another

herbivore – a consumer that eats only plants or producers

omnivore – a consumer that eats plants and animals

carnivore – a consumer that eats only animals

