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| Abiotic      | Include all the non-living things in an ecosystem (example: light, temperature, and soil composition). |
| Adaptations  | When animals go through changes that make them fit in better with the environment around them.         |
| Behavior     | Is the way an organism responds to a change in the environment.  |
| Biotic       | Include all the living things in an ecosystem (example: Trees, Flowers)                                |
| Carbon Cycle | The cycle in which carbon flows through the environment and living things.                             |

Carnivore

Animals that eat only meat.

Community

Is made up of all different kinds of populations living in the same area.

Coniferous

Have colder temperatures and contain trees that produce seeds in cones and have leaves shaped like needles (pine trees). Animals include: finches, jays, elk, moose, beavers, and wolves.

Consumers

Some organisms must get energy by eating other organisms.

Decomposers

Organisms such as fungi, worms, and bacteria get energy by breaking down nutrients in dead organisms.

Deforestation

The clearing of forest lands.

Ecosystem

A community that includes all living and nonliving things found in a certain area.

Food Chain

Is a series of organisms through which energy is passed.

Food Web

A diagram of several connected food chains.

Forest Ecosystems

Found in areas where the temperature of the air is mild and there is plenty of rainfall.

Grasslands

Found in warm and temperate area that receives rainfall. They are usually flat or having rolling hills. They are sometimes called prairies, savannahs, plains, and pampas. Animals that live there include: prairie dogs, mice and bison.

Habitat.

Is the physical space used by a population.

Herbivore

Animals that eat only plants.

Hibernate

Is to go to sleep for the winter and live on stored food.

Host

An organism that is infected by a parasite.

Limiting Factor

A resource or environmental factor that limits the size of the population.

Marine Ecosystems:  
Coral Reefs

Are found in shallow parts of the ocean where it is very warm and sunny.

Marine Ecosystems:  
Estuaries

Bodies of water found in areas where freshwater from rivers and streams and salt water from the ocean meet. (Shrimp, crabs, clams, reeds, grasses and turtles live here).

Marine Ecosystems:  
Lakes and Ponds

Freshwater ecosystems, animals include algae, cattails, snails, insects, frogs, and fish.

Migrate

Is to move from one place to another, usually with the change of seasons.

Niche

Is the role each animal has. Sometimes different populations occupy the same area and must compete for resources like food, water, and shelter. Usually the weaker population will die and move to a new area.

Nitrogen Cycle

Is the cycle in which nitrogen moves through the environment and living things.

Omnivore

Animals that eat both plants and other animals.

Organisms

Are all living things.

Parasites

An organism that must live on or inside another organism in order to get energy.

Pollutant

A substance that causes pollution.

Pollution

An unwanted change in the environment.

Population

A group of organisms of the same species living in the same place.

Predator

Animals that eat each other.

Prey

Animals that other animals hunt for food.

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| <p>Producers</p>            | <p>Are organisms that use the Sun's energy to make their own food (all plants).</p>  |
| <p>Scavengers</p>           | <p>Eat the dead flesh of animals.</p>  |
| <p>Temperate Deciduous</p>  | <p>Contains trees that lose their leaves each fall. Have animals like bears, rabbits, deer, and snakes. Plants such as ferns and mosses also grow.</p> |
| <p>Tropical Rainforests</p> | <p>Found in much warmer areas and have plenty of rainfall. Animals include monkeys, reptiles, parrots, and toucans.</p>                                |