Ecology

	organisms	
Organisms that can breed and produce fertile offspring	species	Biosphere
Group of organisms in same species living in the same geographical area	population	Ecosystem
Different populations living in the same general geographical area	community	Community
Habitat:	Ecosystem	
NICHE:		
COMPETITIVE EXCLUSION PRINCIPLE:		
Land & Aquatic	biomes	
	biosphere	

	organisms	Includes Biotic Factors: All the living things that organism	Ecology:
Organisms that can breed and produce fertile offspring	species		
Group of organisms in same species living in the same geographical area	population		
Different populations living in the same general geographical area	community		
Habitat:	Ecosystem	Includes biotic &	
NICHE:		Abiotic factors	
COMPETITIVE EXCLUSION PRINCIPLE:			
	biomes		
	biosphere		

		i	1
	organisms	Includes Biotic	Ecology:
Organisms that can breed and produce fertile offspring	species	Factors: All the living	
Group of organisms in same species living in the same geographical area	population	organism interacts with	
Different populations living in the same general geographical area	community		
Habitat: where an organism lives within an ecosystem; "address" NICHE: place organism lives PLUS what it does; "job" COMPETITIVE EXCLUSION PRINCIPLE: No two species can share the same niche	Ecosystem: Habitat and niche of organism; includes biotic & abiotic factors	Includes biotic & abiotic factors Abiotic factors: All the non- living things that affect an	
Land & Aquatic	biomes	organism	
Portion of the planet in which all life exists;includes land, water, atmosphere	biosphere 🗲		

Organisms that can breed and produce fertile offspring Group of organisms in same species living in the same geographical area Different populations living in the same general geographical area	organisms species population community	Includes Biotic Factors : All the living things that organism interacts with	Ecology: Scientific study of interactions
 Habitat: where an organism lives within an ecosystem; "address" NICHE: place organism lives PLUS what it does; "job" COMPETITIVE EXCLUSION PRINCIPLE: No two species can share the same niche Land & Aquatic Portion of the planet in which all life exists; includes land, water, atmosphere 	Ecosystem Habitat and niche of organism; includes biotic & abiotic factors biomes biosphere	Includes biotic & abiotic factors Abiotic factors: All the non- living things that affect an organism	of organisms with each other and with their environment



Biomes: geographic areas that have similar climates and ecosystems

Tundra

General Location: Canada, Alaska, Siberia; latitudes around North Pole

Average Yearly Climate: less than 25 cm precipitation yearly; Very cold year round (-40°C in winter)

Soil: is poor; Permafrost: Layer of permanently frozen soil Distinguishing Features: Cold, dry, treeless region

<u>Plant Life:</u> Tundra plants are resistant to drought and cold; Examples:Reindeer moss (a lichen!),Lichens,True mosses,Grasses,Small shrubs and flowers

<u>Animal Life:</u> Many animals of the tundra migrate there during the short summer; Caribou, Musk oxen, Lemmings, *Biting insects,*

Snowy owls, Arctic hares













Taiga or coniferous forest <u>General Location:</u> Canada, Alaska & Russia; latitudes between 50-60 degrees North; largest biome

Average Yearly Climate: 35-40 cm precipitation (mostly snow) ; winters are long & cold;

<u>Soil:</u> no permafrost, so trees can grow <u>Distinguishing Features:</u>

<u>Plant Life:</u> cone-bearing evergreen trees (firs, spruces, pines, hemlocks, cedars

<u>Animal Life:</u> moose, black bear, lynx, wolves, badgers, wolverines, ermines, deer



Temperate deciduous forest

mammals

<u>General Location:</u> Found in Europe, Eastern US & China; below 50 degrees North latitude <u>Average Yearly Climate</u>: 75-150 cm precipitation yearly;

Soil: rich in nutrients from layers of decomposing leaves

<u>Distinguishing Features:</u> wide range of temperatures in 4 seasons; below freezing in winter; much warmer in the summer; layers of vegetation (canopy, understory, forest floor) <u>Plant Life</u>:very abundant; oak, hickory, maple, shrubs, wildflowers, ferns <u>Animal Life</u>: very diverse; deer, foxes, snakes, bears, birds, raccoons, amphibians, small



Tropical Rain Forest

<u>General Location:</u>near equator in Africa, South America, Australia & Pacific Islands <u>Average Yearly Climate:</u> hot & humid all year, constant temps around 25 C (77F);200-225 cm precipitation yearly

Soil: acidic & nutrient poor

Distinguishing Features: lush productive with

half of all species on Earth

<u>Plant Life:</u>have shallow roots; over 700 species

trees & over 1000 species of flowers;

mahogany, bromeliads/orchids, giant ferns

<u>Animal Life:</u> monkeys, exotic birds, snakes sloths, bats, large cats...exotic mammals



Grassland

General Location: found on every continent Average Yearly Climate: wet season followed by drought season; 25-75 cm precipitation yearly Soil:very rich, fertile, sod (root system), **Distinguishing Features: tall grasses; aka** Prairie/Plains(US), steppe(Asia), Savanna(Africa & Australia), Pampas(S. American) Plant Life:most important farming areas (cereal & grains), wheat, rye, barley, corn Animal Life: mostly grazing animals, bison, prairie dog, pronghorn, coyote, gazelle, lion, elephant, giraffe, wallaby, wombat







Desert

<u>General Location:</u>found on every continent <u>Average Yearly Climate:</u> less than 25 cm

precipitation yearly

Soil: gravel to sand; nutrient poor

Distinguishing Features:driest biome;

extreme temperatures (very hot during day; cold at night)

<u>Plant Life</u>:adaptations for extreme temps & dryness; cactus, mesquite, Joshua trees,

wildflowers

<u>Animal Life:</u>lizards, camels, snakes,

scorpions, gila monster, tarantula, kangaroo

rat, predatory birds







Habitat: aka "address"Niche: aka "job"Where an organism lives;What an organism does in itsincludes biotic & abiotic factorshabitat

Competitive Exclusion Principle

Two species can NOT fill or perform the same niche in the same habitat



The Earth SOLAR powered; **THE SUN** is the main source of energy for life on Earth because **AUTOTROPHS** trapped energy from sunlight into organic compounds, like glucose sugar, for **HETEROTROPHS** to consume and breakdown for energy.



Autotrophs (AKA **PRODUCERS):** Can make their OWN food *auto=self; troph=feeders*

Photosynthesis:

Traps solar energy into bonds of sugars like glucose

Chemosynthesis: in absence of light, using chemicals for making sugars in hostile places











Heterotrophs (aka **CONSUMERS**) **HERBIVORES** = eat only plants

CARNIVORES = eat only animals

OMNIVORES = eat both plants & animals

DETRITIVORES= feed on plant & animal remains

DECOMPOSERS= break down and absorb

organic matter



FOOD CHAIN is how energy flows through an ecosystem in a series of "linear" steps in which organisms transfer energy by being eaten (producers \rightarrow consumers)



Plant

Complex "web" of feeding patterns in an ecosystem=

- A FOOD WEB links ALL the food chains in an ecosystem together.
- Each step in a food chain or web = **TROPHIC LEVEL** ^{Ringt}
- **PRODUCERS (AUTOTROPHS)** ALWAYS make up
- the **FIRST** trophic level.
- Lower levels must be bigger to support the level above.
- Only about **10%** of the energy from each level is passed on. Some energy is used for life processes such as growth, development, movement, metabolism, active transport,
- and reproduction. The rest is lost as **HEAT**.







Biogeochemical cycles: matter moving through ecosystem; 95% of body of MOST organisms made of C, H, O, N



Biogeochemical cycles: matter moving through ecosystem; 95% of body of MOST organisms made of C, H, O, N

Water cycle (aka hydrologic) Oxygen & hydrogen are in all building blocks; solvent



Carbon cycle Carbon in CO₂ in atmosphere and ocean, land in organisms, underground fossil fuels



Nitrogen cycle
Most of atmosphere
is nitrogen-but NOT
in a form we can
use; bacteria "fix" N
for DNA, RNA, ATP &
proteins



Phosphorus cycle NOT in atmosphere, needed for DNA, RNA, ATP, phospholipids















High Density

Low Density

Population dispersion is:

Geographic or spatial distribution of organisms within a specific area

Three dispersion types:







Uniform: Not as common. Used because of scarcity of resources

Population dispersion is:

Geographic or spatial distribution of organisms within a specific area



Three dispersion types:







Clumping: Most common. Safety in numbers, social interaction, mating and caring for young, resources are clumped Population dispersion is:

Geographic or spatial distribution of organisms within a specific area

Three dispersion types:













- The increase is slow at first. This is called the Lag Phase.
- Over time the population becomes larger. This is called the exponential growth phase.
- Under ideal conditions with unlimited resources, a population will grow exponentially

Population growth may slow down when:

death rate increases; birth rate decreases

resources (food, shelter, optimal temperature) are not available carrying capacity is reached.

> the maximum number of organisms that can be supported by a given environment





Density-independent limiting factors: Unusual weather

Natural disasters

Human activities





succession: gradual, sequential regrowth of a community of species in an area

Primary Succession: has **not supported life previously**, such as bare rock, a sand dune, or an island formed by a volcanic eruption.Soil is not initially present.





succession:gradual, sequential regrowth of a community of species in an area



Pripyat town square.

Secondary Succession Sequential replacement of species that follows disruption of an existing community; forest fire or a strong storm, human activity, such as farming, logging or mining.Occurs where soil is already present.



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FIGURE 16.1 WORLD POPULATION



Two technological advancements that have contributed to population growth:

Agricultural advancements: gas-powered equipment

Medical advancements (antibiotics & antiseptics)



Types of Resources				
Renewable				
Nonrenewable	Types of energy that are used faster than they form; dead organic material under severe pressure for millions of years to form fossil fuels: examples oil and			
	COal			

Types of Resources		
Renewable	Resources that cannot be used up, or can replenis a short time period, examples: wind, solar	sh in
Nonrenewable		; fuels:

Ecological Footprint: How much land is necessary to produce & maintain enough food, water, shelter, energy and water to sustain a population

Size of footprint depends on: amount & efficiency of resource use, along with how much waste & toxicity levels









 light emitted from the Sun penetrates Earth's atmosphere

2.Energy is absorbed by Earth and reradiated as heat (aka infrared radiation)

3.

4.



1.light emitted from the Sun penetrates Earth's atmosphere

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3. Greenhouse gases in atmosphere absorb many of the longer wavelengths of infrared radiation

4.



1.light emitted from the Sun penetrates Earth's atmosphere

2.Energy is absorbed by Earth and reradiated as heat (aka infrared radiation)

3. Greenhouse gases in atmosphere absorb many of the longer wavelengths of infrared radiation

4. Molecules rerelease infrared radiation, which is absorbed again by other molecules, Earth's surface or lost into space. Indicator Species: provides a sign of the quality of the ecosystem's environmental conditions

Biomagnification:



Indicator Species: provides a sign of the quality of the ecosystem's environmental conditions

Biomagnification: process of a pollutant moving UP a food chain and accumulating in higher concentrations; measured in parts per





The movement of fat-soluble pollutants through a food chain results in higher concentrations in the top consumer.



- **Biodiversity importance:**
- Decrease in biodiversity of an ecosystem's affects all species



- **Biodiversity importance:**
- Decrease in biodiversity of an ecosystem's affects all species
- Medical & technological advancements that come from nature



- **Biodiversity importance:**
- Decrease in biodiversity of an ecosystem's affects all species
- Medical & technological advancements that come from nature
- Loss of biodiversity can reduce ecosystem's stability



Threats to Biodiversity



Habitat fragmentation:

Barrier is formed that prevents an organism from accessing its habitat, usually due to human activity





Habitat fragmentation:

Barrier is formed that prevents an organism from accessing its habitat, usually due to human activity Introduced species:

Threats to Biodiversity

Aka invasive species....Any organism brought to an ecosystem as the result of human activities Burmese python, Florida Everglades..feeds on native species, including endangered species Kudzu, SE US...blankets trees & shrubs, kills native plants Zebra mussels...



Other Human Impact:

Overhunting:

Hunting & gathering part of human history; but now hunting is more for "fads" or status; examples shark fin soup, white ivory tusks- can lead to extinction of some animals or species

<u>Agriculture</u>

- Removal of tropical rainforest--large effect on biodiversity
- Development of food growth or animal for consumption; allows for settlement

