

Chapter 3: Communities and Ecosystems

Vocabulary

community

All the living things (organisms) that live in particular area

ecosystem

All the living things along with the physical environment where they live

niche

An organism's role in the community. This includes what it eats and what eats it.

habitat.

The place where an organism lives

predator-prey relationship

A situation in which one organism (predator) eats another organism (prey)

symbiosis

A relationship where two organisms live together and both benefit from the relationship

parasitism

A relationship between organisms in which one organism is both the habitat (place to live) and food for another organism that lives off of the first organism

scavenger

An organism that feeds off of another organism that it did not kill

energy pyramid

A symbolic drawing or graphic constructed to represent the energy available for use by the organisms in a community. Producers can be found at the bottom (plants) and consumers at the various levels up.

biocides

A poison produced by man used to kill forms of life considered to be pests or competitors with humans

biodiversity

The total number of different forms of life on the planet Earth