

<p>Abiotic (physical) factors</p>	<p>the influences of the non-living parts of the ecosystem e.g. pH, salinity, temperature, turbidity, wind speed etc.</p>
<p>autotrophs</p>	<p>Organisms that are able to make their own food "primary producer"</p>
<p>biodiversity</p>	<p>The diversity of life forms in an environment</p>
<p>Biomes</p>	<p>the largest geographically based biotic communities that can be conveniently recognized</p>
<p>biosphere</p>	<p>the region within which all living things are found on Earth</p>

Biotic factors	the influences of the living parts of the ecosystem e.g. competitors, parasites, pathogens, symbionts, and predators
Carrying Capacity	The maximum population size that can be supported by the available resources
Community	a group of populations living and interacting with each other in an area.
decomposers	An organism that lives on decaying organic material from which it obtains energy and nutrients. ex. fungi, bacteria, insects
detritivores	An organism that uses dead organic waste as food and digests it (ex. crab, vultures)

Ecology	the study of relationships between living organisms and between organisms and their environment
Ecosystem	a community and its abiotic environment.
A food web	a diagram that shows all the feeding relationships in a community with arrows which show the direction of the energy flow
Habitat	the environment in which a species normally lives or the location of a living organism.
heterotrophs	Definition: organisms that can NOT manufacture (make) their own food- heterotrophs obtain their energy by feeding on others. They can either eat autotrophs or other heterotrophs. Hetero-means "other" and trophs-mean "feeder" Also called "consumer"

omnivores

An organism that eats both plants and animals.

Population

a group of organisms of the same species who live in the same area at the same time.

predation

An interaction in which one organism kills another for food.

Species

a group of organisms that can interbreed and produce fertile offspring.

Trophic level

the trophic level of an organism is its position in the food chain.