

## Living Planet

<b>Biosphere</b>	Part of Earth that supports life (top crust, water, atmosphere). Makes environments.
<b>Ecosystem</b>	Living and nonliving parts in an environment.
<b>Ecology</b>	Study of interactions between organisms and environment.
<b>Population</b>	Organisms of the same species living in an area.
<b>Community</b>	All populations in an ecosystem.
<b>Habitat</b>	Place where an organism lives (food, shelter, moisture, temperature).

## Populations

<b>Competition</b>	<p>Organisms seek same resource.</p> <p>Limits population size.</p> <p>Most intense within same species.</p>
<b>Population Density</b>	<p>Size of a population in an area.</p>
<b>Limiting Factor</b>	<p>Restricts the number of the population.</p> <p>Example: lack of rain, lack of food, habitat destruction, temperature change.</p>
<b>Carrying Capacity</b>	<p>Largest number of one species an ecosystem can support.</p>
<b>Change in Population</b>	<p>Birth and death rates.</p> <p>Moving.</p>

## Interactions Within Communities

<b>Producers</b>	Outside energy source (sun) to make food (photosynthesis).  Green plants.
<b>Consumers</b>	Cannot make their own food.  Obtain energy by eating other organisms.  Herbivores, carnivores, omnivores, decomposers.
<b>Herbivore</b>	Eats plants.
<b>Carnivore</b>	Eats animals.
<b>Omnivore</b>	Eats plants and animals.
<b>Decomposer</b>	Eats waste and dead organisms.

## Interactions Within Communities

<b>Food Chain</b>	Model for feeding relationships.
<b>Symbiosis</b>	Close relationship between species.
<b>Mutualism</b>	Both species benefit from relationship.
<b>Commensalism</b>	One organism benefits from relationship and other is not affected.
<b>Parasitism</b>	One organism benefits and one is harmed in relationship.

## Interactions Within Communities

<b>Niche</b>	Organism's role (job) in the environment.
<b>Predators</b>	Consumers eating consumers.
<b>Prey</b>	Food of consumer.