

## Science Ch. 7 Study Guide Ecosystems:

### Define the following:

1. producer: any organism that makes its own food
2. community: all of the organisms that live in the same ecosystem and interact with one another
3. consumer: an organism that eats other living things to get energy
4. ecosystem: all of the living and nonliving things that exist and interact in one place
5. environment: everything that surrounds and affects a living thing
6. organic matter: the remains of plants and animals
7. pollinator: an animal, such as an insect or a bird, that helps plants make seeds by moving pollen from one part of the plant to another
8. population: all of the organisms of the same kind that live in an ecosystem
9. prairie: a grassy land area with few or no trees
10. rainforest: an area with a great deal of rainfall. Most are warm all year and have a great deal of sunlight
11. reproduction: the process of making more of one's own kind
12. seed dispersal: the scattering or carrying away of seeds from the plants that produced them
13. soil: the loose material that covers much of the earth's surface
14. temperate zone: an area of the earth where the temperature rarely gets very hot or very cold. Located between the tropical zone and arctic zone.

### Answer the following:

1. Make a list of living vs. nonliving things in a forest:

<u>living</u>	<u>nonliving</u>
birds	light
deer	air
beaver	water
plants	soil
trees	

2. How would a decrease in population of one organism cause a decrease in a different population?

If the two populations are independent they would both decrease because they depend on each other for survival.

3. Give an example of a population:

All of the beavers in one area is a population.

4. Explain the difference between consumers and producers:

Consumers eat other living things to get energy. Producers make their own food.

5. How do plants gain energy?

Plants gain energy from sunlight.

6. Give an example of how 2 organisms depend on one another:

Egyptian Plover and Crocodile. The plover cleans the crocodile's teeth by eating the small animals in the crocodile's gums. The bird gets a meal and the crocodile gets its teeth cleaned.

7. Give an example of a producer and a consumer:

A plant like a fern is a producer. It uses energy from the sun to make its own food. An animal like a deer is a consumer. It feeds on other living things.

8. Describe the relationship between an environment, a community, and a population:

An environment is all living and nonliving things in an area.

A community is all living things in one area.

A population is all of one type of living thing in an area.

9. If you were measuring the growth of different house plants, what is one observation you may make:

Observation - Plant A is taller than Plant B

Idea (not a observation) - Plant A may grow better outdoors

10. How do consumers gain energy?

By eating plants or eating other animals that eat plants.