

VOCAB: ECOLOGY

NAME _____ HR _____

<u>1</u>	<u>Ecology</u> - the study of how living organisms interact with each other and their environment.	
<u>2</u>	<u>Biotic</u> - living factors in the environment (plants, animals)	
<u>3</u>	<u>Abiotic</u> -nonliving parts of the environment (water, air, temperature, soil, etc)	
4	<u>Organism</u> -a single living thing (plant, animal, bacterium, protist, or fungus)	
<u>5</u>	<u>Population</u> -group of the same species living in the same area	
<u>6</u>	<u>Community</u> - all populations that live in the same area and interact with each other	
<u>7</u>	<u>Ecosystem</u> - a community of organisms and their environment	
<u>8</u>	<u>Biosphere</u> - all ecosystems on earth	

<u>9</u>	<u>Niche</u> - the job of an organism	
<u>10</u>	<u>Producers</u> - organisms that use sunlight to make food (plants)	
<u>11</u>	<u>Consumers</u> - organisms that eat other organisms	
<u>12</u>	<u>Herbivore</u> - eats only plants (consumer)	
<u>13</u>	<u>Carnivore</u> - eats only animals (consumer)	
<u>14</u>	<u>Omnivore</u> - eats plants and animals (consumer)	
<u>15</u>	<u>Scavenger</u> - eats dead organisms (consumer)	
<u>16</u>	<u>Decomposers</u> - get energy by breaking down dead organisms	
<u>17</u>	<u>Bacteria</u> -tiny one celled decomposer	

<u>18</u>	<u>Fungi</u> -multicellular decomposer (Molds, mildews. yeasts. mushrooms, and puffballs)	
<u>19</u>	<u>Food chain</u> - diagram of energy flow from one organism to another (simple)	
<u>20</u>	<u>Food web</u> - diagram showing feeding relationships in an ecosystem	
<u>21</u>	<u>Energy pyramid</u> - diagram that shows energy loss in an environment	
<u>22</u>	<u>Limiting factors</u> - a resource that is so scarce that it limits the size of a population [food, water in a desert, space]	
<u>23</u>	<u>Carrying capacity</u> - the largest population that an environment can support	
<u>24</u>	<u>Competition</u> - when 2 or more organisms try to use the same resource.	
<u>25</u>	<u>Predator</u> -the eater (carnivore)	
<u>26</u>	<u>Prey</u> -the victim	

<u>27</u>	<u>Symbiosis</u> - a close long term association between 2 or more species	
<u>28</u>	<u>Mutualism</u> - both organisms benefit (good)	
<u>29</u>	<u>Commensalism</u> - one organism benefits and the other is unaffected	
<u>30</u>	<u>Parasitism</u> - one organism benefits and the other is harmed	
<u>31</u>	<u>Parasite</u> -the invader	
<u>32</u>	<u>Host</u> -the victim of the parasite	
<u>33</u>	<u>Evolution</u> -the change in a species over time	
<u>34</u>	<u>Biodiversity</u> -the great variety of life forms on the planet	
<u>35</u>	<u>Territory</u> -the "property" of an organism	

<u>36</u>	<u>Natural balance</u> -the idea that producers, consumers and decomposers live in an equal and harmonious state	
<u>37</u>	<u>Dependence</u> - reliance on another organism for survival	
<u>38</u>	<u>Detrimental</u> - bad effect	
<u>39</u>	<u>Beneficial</u> - good effect	