

Key words

Ecosystem	A group of living organisms together with their non-living environment.
Habitat	Somewhere where animals, plants and living organisms live.
Population	All the animals of a specific species that populates a given area at a specific time.
Community	All living things in an area, different species co-existing in a habitat.
Species	Organisms that can interbreed to create fertile offspring.
Producers	Plants that photosynthesise
Consumers	Eats other organisms
Decomposers	Breaks down nutrients
Biotic	Biological factor affecting an ecosystem
Abiotic	Non-biological factor affecting an ecosystem
Biodiversity	The amount of variation shown by organisms in an ecosystem.

Biotic	Biological factor affecting an ecosystem
Primary consumer	An animal which eats the producer (herbivore)
Pyramid of biomass	A diagram in which blocks making up a pyramid represent the total mass of organisms at each trophic level
Biomass	The total mass of organisms, <u>e.g.</u> in an ecosystem
Ecosystem	A community of living organisms together with their non-living environment
Quadrant	A square frame, often divided into smaller squares
Transect	A line that you set up through your ecosystem and place quadrats along
Food web	A diagram showing the way in which several food chains are linked together in an ecosystem
Trophic level	The position an organism occupies within a food chain or web
Sampling	The method by which we look at the organisms present in a given area
Producer	A plant that can make its own food by photosynthesis
Biodiversity	The amount of variation shown by organisms in an ecosystem