

ECOLOGY TERMS Activity #1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

TERM	DEFINITION - IN YOUR OWN WORDS!
Abiotic	human-made (pipe, phone, car, etc) or Earth-made (rock, ocean, wave, etc) object that <u>was never alive!</u>
Adaptations	modifications of a species to survive in an ecological niche.
Biome	a major ecological community, extending over a large area, characterized by dominant vegetation.
Biotic	organism or object that <u>is alive</u> (crab, fish, etc.) <u>was once alive</u> (paper, pencil, etc.) or <u>is a product of a living thing</u> (seashell, etc.)
Carrying Capacity	the maximum, equilibrium number of organisms of a particular species that can be supported indefinitely in a given environment.
Ecology	the scientific study of the relationships between the living things (organisms) and their environments (biotic and abiotic).
Limiting Factor	an environmental factor that tends to limit population size.
Niche	an organism's job or role in its environment.
SUMMARY	

Activity #2

DEFINITION - IN YOUR OWN WORDS!

TERM	DEFINITION - IN YOUR OWN WORDS!
Carnivore	an animal that eats flesh
Consumer	an organism, usually an animal, that feeds on plants or other animals.
Decomposer	an organism, usually a bacterium or fungus, that breaks down the cells of dead plants and animals into simpler substances.
Food Chain	a series of organisms interrelated in their feeding habits, the smallest being fed upon by a larger one, which in turn is eaten by a larger one, etc.
Food Web	a series of organisms related by predator-prey and consumer-resource interactions. The interrelated food chains in an ecological community.
Herbivore	an organism that feeds on plants.
Omnivore	an organism that eats both animal and plant foods.
Predator-Prey	a predator is an organism that eats another organism. the prey is the organism which the predator eats.
Producer	an organism, such as a plant, that is able to produce its own food from inorganic substances.
SUMMARY	