**Ecology Study Guide**

**Ch. 3**

Vocab:

* Abiotic
* Autotroph/

Producer

* Biome
* Biosphere
* Biotic
* Carnivore
* Community
* Decomposer
* Ecosystem
* Food chain
* Food web
* Herbivore
* Heterotroph/

Consumer

* Omnivore
* Population
* Species
1. How is a species different from a population? Give an example of a species.
2. How is a population different from a community? Give an example of a population.
3. How is a community different from an ecosystem? Give an example of a community.
4. Give examples of biotic and abiotic factors in an ecosystem.
5. Why is the earth not considered to be a closed system?
6. All food chains start with a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. What is the original source of energy for most ecosystems? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. How do autotrophs get energy? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. How do consumers get energy? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. Why is energy lost between levels of a food chain?
11. How much energy is passed between levels of a food chain?
12. Identify the first-level, second-level, third-lever consumers and the producer below



1. If the grass had 1000 units of energy, how much energy would be available for the grasshopper? The shrew? Owl?

1. If the shrew were removed from the food chain above, what would happen to the ecosystem?
2. Which level of an energy pyramid has the most available energy? Least?
3. Identify the autotrophs, carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores according to the food web below:



**Ch. 4**

Vocab

* Commensalism
* Competition
* Habitat
* Mutualism
* Niche
* Parasitism
* Pioneer species
* Predation
* Primary succession
* Secondary succession
1. What is the difference between an organism’s habitat vs. niche? Give some examples of an animal’s niche.
2. Identify the following examples as *predation, competition, mutualism, parasitism, commensalism*
	1. Some birds live among cattle to eat the insects stirred up as they walk.
	2. Ticks and fleas that live in a host animal's fur bite the animal and drink its blood
	3. A grizzly bear eats salmon
	4. Bees and hummingbirds gather nectar and spread pollen.
	5. Barnacles attach to shells or whales
	6. Grey squirrels in an area all eat the same tree nuts
3. How can competition be reduced in an ecosystem?
4. Describe primary succession.
5. Describe secondary succession.
6. Why are pioneer species important in primary succession?

**Ch. 5**

Vocab

* Carrying capacity
* Emigration
* Immigration
* Limiting factor
* Population
1. What biotic factors could affect the size of a population in an ecosystem?
2. What abiotic factors could affect the size of a population in an ecosystem?
3. How could a population grow?
4. What would happen to a population if it grew larger than the carrying capacity?
5. Why can’t a species reproduce and grow forever?