

Vocabulary: Chapter 1

Part 1

- **Biosphere**
 - All environments on earth that support life
- **Ecosystem**
 - All the organisms living within a particular area and the nonliving, physical components of the environment in which the organisms interact
- **Community**
 - All the organisms inhabiting an ecosystem
- **Population**
 - Interacting group of individuals of one species
- **Organism**
 - One individual in the population
- **Organ system**
 - A system within the organism
 - An example would be the nervous system
- **Organs**
 - Make up the organ systems
 - The brain is a component of the nervous system
- **Tissue**
 - Make up organs
- **Cells**
 - Make up tissues
 - Enclosed in a membrane and perform a specific function
- **Organelles**
 - Parts of cells that perform specific functions
- **Molecules**
 - Atoms held together by chemical bonds
- **Atoms**
 - The smallest particle of matter

- **Producers**
 - Plants that take in sunlight, carbon dioxide and water to produce glucose and oxygen
- **Consumers**
 - Organisms that eat plants and other animals
- **Decomposers**
 - Decompose the remains of dead organisms
 - Fungi, bacteria and small organisms in the soil are examples
- **Prokaryotes**
 - Single celled organisms that do not have a nucleus. Bacteria and archae are examples.
- **Eukaryotes**
 - Complex organisms whose cells have a nucleus. Plants and animals are examples.
- **Nucleotides**
 - The components that make up DNA and RNA

Part 2

- **Evolution**
 - Change over time.
- **Natural Selection**
 - A theory of Charles Darwin that states only the most fit survive.
- **Evolutionary adaptation**
 - The accumulation of favorable variations in a population over time
- **Theory**
 - A set of overwhelmingly accepted statements that explain observable events in the natural world.
- **Hypothesis**
 - An educated guess
- **Control group**
 - In an experiment, the experimental group is compared to the control group
- **Experimental group**

- This group is different from the experimental group in one variable.
- **Positive control**
 - Used as a comparison to see what happens if the experiment works
- **Negative control**
 - Used as a comparison to see what happens if the experiment does not work
- **Controlled variables**
 - Things that are the same in both control and experimental groups
- **Experimental variables**
 - The variable that is different between the control and experimental groups
- **Independent variable**
 - The thing that you change in an experiment or the thing that you are testing for
- **Dependent variable**
 - The thing that gets measured at the end of the experiment