

# Communities and Ecosystems

## Vocabulary Quiz Answer Key

In your own words, define the following terms.

### 1. Community

Example Answers:

- A community is all of the animals and plants that live in an area and share the resources. The community is considering all of the biotic factors.
- A community consists of all of the living things that inhabit a particular area.
- A community is an assemblage of populations; it consists of all of the populations that share the same environment.
- A Mountain community could consist of river otters, trout, mayflies, mountain laurel, cardinals and flowering dogwood.

### 2. Ecosystem

Example Answers:

- An ecosystem is all of the living and nonliving things in the environment. The ecosystem is considering both the biotic and abiotic factors in the area.
- An ecosystem includes all of the abiotic factors as well as the communities that exist in a certain area.
- An ecosystem includes all of the abiotic factors as well as the communities that exist in a certain area. Abiotic factors are those factors in an environment that are not living. Important examples of abiotic factors include water, temperature, light, soil and wind.

### 3. Population

Example Answers:

- A population is the amount of one particular species living in an area. For example, the total number of brown mice in an area is the population of brown mice.
- Populations are a group of living things in a particular area that all belong to the same species.
- Humans, black bears, porkfish, river otters, trout, mountain laurel trees, dandelions, and pitcher plants are all examples of different populations.

### 4. Abiotic

Example Answers:

- Abiotic factors are nonliving parts of an ecosystem like soil, water, light, temperature, air, wind, and weather.
- Abiotic factors are those factors that are not living. Examples of abiotic factors include water, temperature, light, soil and wind.

### 5. Biotic

Example Answers:

- Biotic factors are living parts of a community and ecosystem like plants (algae, trees, phytoplankton) and animals (worms, owls, insects, fish, zooplankton).
- Biotic factors are those factors that are living. Examples of biotic factors could include animals, plants, fungi, protists, or bacteria.