

# Ecosystems Study Guide

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

1.

Ecosystem	Plants	Animals
Desert	shrubs, Mexican poppies, cactus	insects, kangaroo rats, snakes, lizards
Deciduous Forest	Maple trees, Oak trees, hickory trees	deer, rabbit, raccoons, black bear
Coniferous Forest	pine trees, fir trees, spruce trees	snakes, frogs, bear, deer, moose, owls
Rainforest	ferns, bamboo, trees	panthers, monkeys, spiders, birds
Grasslands	grasses, few trees	prairie dogs, jack rabbits, bison,
Estuary	salt grasses, pickleweed	has lifeforms similar to ocean, birds
Ocean	seaweed, kelp, alga	coral, fish, sharks, crabs, whales, shrimp
Lakes/Ponds	algae	tadpoles
Saltmarsh	salt bushes, grasses,	fiddler crab, stone crabs, hermit crab, mussels

- Trees that have adapted to changes in season can be found in what Ecosystem?  
*deciduous forests*
- Contrast a tropical rainforest and a deciduous forest (give at least 2 examples).  
*tropical rainforests receive more rain*
- Sam created the following food chain: Grass→rabbit→fox. Which animal is a carnivore? Herbivore?  
*carnivore = fox; herbivore = rabbit*
- Where are producers found on the food chain?  
*At the beginning. They create their own food.*
- Give 3 examples of a consumer.  
*grasshopper, lion, ladybug, dog, people, etc.*
- Why are decomposers called “nature’s recyclers?”  
*They help recycle nutrients in the soil.*
- Define a producer. Give an example of a producer in a terrestrial ecosystem and aquatic ecosystem.  
*mainly green plants; can make their own food; terrestrial ecosystem: trees, grass; aquatic ecosystem: algae, lily pads*
- How are dead trees naturally recycled?  
*they are turned into soil*
- Give two examples of consumers that only eat producers.  
*snail, giraffe, deer, elephant*
- Why would bacteria be important to a food chain?  
*helps to recycle nutrients back into the environment*
- Why is the sun important to a food chain? What part of the food chain is most dependent on the sun?  
*The sun provides energy. Producers are most dependent on the sun.*
- Why might amphibians live in an ecosystem like a wetland?  
*They need to lay their eggs under water or on moist ground. Wetlands provide this.*
- European starlings are birds that take over the nests of other birds. When they move into an area, starlings reproduce quickly. Taking over the nests of other birds most likely increases the number of starlings by helping them to do what?  
*provides shelter, place to lay eggs,*
- What would happen if the snakes were taken out of this food chain?  
Clover→ Grasshopper→ Frog→ Snake→ Owl  
*Population of frogs would increase, overpopulate, and impact population of grasshoppers, clovers,*
- Why might a clownfish not survive in a freshwater aquarium?  
*It is a saltwater fish. (Nemo)*

