

# Vocabulary



**community** populations of different kinds of organisms that live in the same place at the same time

A pond community contains populations of fish, frogs, dragonflies, and water plants.

**ecosystem** all the living and nonliving things that interact with each other in an environment

A pond ecosystem has populations of plants and animals. It also has air, water, sunlight, mud, and other nonliving things.

**habitat** the environment where an organism lives

An organism's habitat provides the food, shelter, water, and temperature needed for the organism's survival.

**organism** a living thing

Scientists group organisms according to their similarities and differences.

**population** all the organisms of the same kind that live in the same place at the same time

All the sunfish in a pond make up one population. All the catfish in the pond make up another population. Many different populations live together in the same ecosystem.

**producer** an organism that makes its own food

Plants are producers. They use the energy in sunlight to make their own food from carbon dioxide and water.