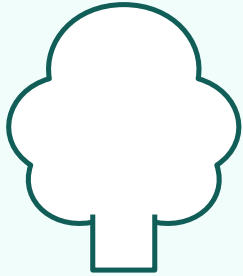


Ecosystems

5th Grade

The living and non-living parts of a place, and how energy moves.



An ecosystem is every living thing in an area plus the non-living things they depend on — soil, water, air and sunlight.

- Producers make their own food from sunlight.
- Consumers eat other living things — herbivores, carnivores, omnivores.
- Decomposers break the dead down and return nutrients to the soil.
- A food web is many food chains linked together.
- Energy is lost as heat at every step, so chains are rarely longer than five.
- Remove one species and everything connected to it is affected.

LOOK FOR IT

Pond: pondweed → tadpole → dragonfly larva → fish → heron.

Habitat is where something lives. Niche is the job it does there. Two different questions.