

Skills Worksheet

Active Reading

Section: What Is an Ecosystem?

Read the passage below. Then answer the questions that follow.

The place where a particular population of a species lives is its **habitat**. The many different species that live together in a habitat are called a **community**. An **ecosystem**, or ecological system, consists of a community and all the physical aspects of its habitat, such as the soil, water, and weather. The physical aspects of a habitat are called abiotic factors, and the living organisms in a habitat are called biotic factors. The number of species living within an ecosystem is a measure of its **biodiversity**. **Succession** is the process of the replacement of one kind of community by another at a single place over a period of time.

SKILL: READING EFFECTIVELY

In the space provided, write the term or phrase from the passage above that best matches the description. Some terms or phrases may be used more than once.

- _____ 1. all living organisms in a habitat
- _____ 2. number of species living within an ecosystem
- _____ 3. change in a community's characteristics over time
- _____ 4. deer, squirrels, and rabbits living together in a forest form this
- _____ 5. an ecological system
- _____ 6. soil, water, and weather are examples of these
- _____ 7. place where a population lives
- _____ 8. all species of freshwater fish that live together in a lake form this
- _____ 9. consists of a community and abiotic factors

An analogy is a comparison. In the space provided, write the letter of the term that best completes the analogy.

- _____ 10. Biotic is to bird as abiotic is to
- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| a. grass. | c. nest. |
| b. tree. | d. worm. |