**Unit 2: Ecology**

(Eco – *house or environment*) & (Logy – *study of*)

**Date:**

What is meant by Ecology?

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What is meant by an ecosystem?

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*We will begin this unit with the idea of how humans influence our ecosystems. It is important to understand the connection between biotic and abiotic interactions within a system.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GlnFylwdYH4>

Looking at the image below, can you identify three biotic factors and three abiotic factors?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Biotic** | **Abiotic** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

What is the difference between biotic factors and abiotic factors?

Abiotic = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Biotic = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is a Biome?

* largest division of our biosphere which contain large regions of similar abiotic and biotic components

Looking at the image to the right, can you identify the eight terrestrial Biomes here on this planet?

1. 

What are the two main factors that determine the characteristics of each Biome on our earth?

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**How do humans influence our ecosystems?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2RC3Hsk90t8> (watch 0 mins – 5:30 mins)

What is meant the carrying capacity of our biosphere?

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What have we done as humans to increase our carrying capacity for our Earth?

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*In class Activity*: In the space below, brainstorm how humans have influenced our ecosystems…