ES Chapter 1.1

Everything is connected

The web of life

Ecology – the study of the interactions of organisms with one another and their environment

Two Parts of the Environment

Biotic – living organisms (animals and plants)

Abiotic – non-living factors in an environment – water, air, sunlight, temperature, rocks

Organization of the Environment (listed from smallest to largest)

1. Organism – one of any living species in an environment (one plant, one ant etc.)
2. Population – all of any living species in an environment (all the grass, all the ants)
3. Community – all of the populations in an area together (all the grass and the ants and the worms and etc.)
4. Ecosystem – all the biotic and abiotic factors in an environment and how they interact
5. Biosphere – (Bio means life, sphere means a 3-D circle) all of the places where life exists on earth.