

# Quick Vocabulary

## Lesson 1

**abiotic factor** nonliving part of an ecosystem

**atmosphere** mix of gases surrounding a planet

**biome** geographic area that contains ecosystem with similar biotic and abiotic features

**biotic factor** living or once-living thing in an ecosystem

**community** all the populations living in an ecosystem at the same time

**ecosystem** all the living and nonliving things in one place

**population** all the members of one species living in an area

**succession** gradual change from one community to another community in an area

## Lesson 2

**biotic potential** growth of a population, in perfect conditions with no limiting factors

**carrying capacity** largest number of individuals of one species that an ecosystem can support over time

**habitat** physical place where a population or organism lives

**limiting factor** limits the growth of a population

**niche** ways that an organism survives, obtains food and shelter, and avoids danger

**symbiotic relationship** two different species live together in a close relationship over a long period of time

# Quick Vocabulary

## Lesson 3

**consumer** cannot make their own food and get energy by eating other organisms

**energy pyramid** model showing the amount of energy available at each step of a food chain

**food chain** model showing how food energy flows in an ecosystem through feeding relationships

**food web** model showing several connected food chains

**producer** changes the energy available in its environment into food energy

**source** point of origin

**transform** to change in composition or structure