**Ecosystems Vocabulary**

**Biotic Factor** ~ any living organism in an ecosystem

 EX: bird, flower, grass, deer, insects

**Abiotic Factor** ~ anything that affects an ecosystem and that is NOT living

 EX: water, air, Sun, soil, rocks, temperature

**Niche** ~ the role/job an organism plays in the ecosystem

 EX: what it eats, how it interacts with biotic factor and abiotic factors

**Organism** ~ any living thing also known as a species

 EX: plant, fungi, protest, animal, bacteria

**Population** ~ all members of one species in a particular area that interact with one another

 EX: herd of deer, flock of cardinals, gaggle of geese

**Community** ~ all of the populations of different species that live in the same area and interact

 with one another

**Ecosystem** ~ all the biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) factors that interact in an area.

**Biosphere** ~ the part of the Earth in which life exists including land, air, and water