



Introduction to Ecosystems

Read the following definition and answer the questions:

An ecosystem is a community of living and non-living components that interact with each other in a specific environment.

1. What is an ecosystem?

2. Draw a simple diagram of an ecosystem, including living and non-living components.

Biodiversity

Read the following definition and answer the questions:

Biodiversity refers to the variety of different species of plants, animals, and microorganisms that live in an ecosystem or on Earth as a whole.

1. What is biodiversity?

2. List three reasons why biodiversity is important.

Species Identification

Read the following information and answer the questions:

Species identification is the process of determining the exact species of a plant or animal.

1. What is species identification?

2. Why is species identification important?

3. Match the following species with their habitats:

◦ Lion:

◦ Coral:

◦ Tree:

Ecosystem Services

Read the following information and answer the questions:

Ecosystem services are the benefits that people obtain from functioning ecosystems.

1. What are ecosystem services?

2. List two ecosystem services provided by forests.

3. How do humans impact ecosystem services?

Conservation and Sustainability

Read the following information and answer the questions:

Conservation is the practice of protecting and preserving ecosystems and species.

1. What is conservation?

2. Why is sustainability important?

3. List three ways individuals can contribute to conservation and sustainability.

Ecosystem Management

Read the following information and answer the questions:

Ecosystem management is the process of managing ecosystems to maintain their health and productivity.

1. What is ecosystem management?

2. List two approaches to ecosystem management.

3. Why is ecosystem management important?

Case Study - Coral Reefs

Read the following information and answer the questions:

Coral reefs are ecosystems found in tropical oceans that are formed by coral polyps.

1. What is a coral reef ecosystem?

2. List two threats to coral reef ecosystems.

3. How can humans help protect coral reef ecosystems?

Group Activity - Ecosystem Dilemma

Imagine you are a manager of a national park. A new development project is proposed that could harm the local ecosystem. What would you do?

Reflection

Individual Reflection:

1. What did you learn about ecosystems and biodiversity?

2. How can you apply what you learned to your daily life?

3. What would you like to learn more about?

Conclusion

1. Summarize the importance of ecosystems and biodiversity.

2. List three key takeaways from this question sheet.