

Cheat Sheet Chapter 7 BJU Science Notes

Adaptations	Carnivore	Community	Competition	Consumers	Decomposers
Ecosystem	Energy pyramid	Environment	Food chain	Habitat	
Herbivore	hibernation	individual	instinct	learned behavior	
Migration	Niche	Omnivore	Photosynthesis	Population	
Predator	Prey	Producers	Producers	Sun	Symbiosis

Possible essay questions:

1. How are food webs different from food chains?
2. Why would animals migrate?
3. How does mimicry help animals avoid predators?

They may migrate because living conditions in one place is better than the other. Three reasons why animals migrate are: to reproduce and raise their young, to find food and water, and to avoid extreme weather temperatures.

2. They also may hibernate: hibernation is when some animals sleep all winter and wake up in the spring. During the summer and fall, hibernating animals store extra body fat. This extra fat provides energy for the animal throughout the winter.

3. During hibernation, the body temperature and the breathing and heart rate drops.

C. Relationships: symbiosis: is a special relationship where two species interact with one another over a long period of time. There are three types of symbiosis: parasitism, mutualism and commensalism. The type of symbiosis where both partners benefit is called mutualism.

1. parasite: is any organism that lives on or in another organism and takes food from the organism.

2. host: the plant or animal that a parasite lives on.

D. Behaviors

1. instinct: basic knowledge and skills needed for survival.

2. learned behavior: a behavior that cannot be inherited.

1. Adaptations are special characteristics or skills that help a living thing survive in its environment.
  2. photosynthesis: the process that plants make their own food by using the sun's light. In order for photosynthesis to occur, the plant needs, light, water and carbon dioxide.
  3. adaptations that plants have for them to survive their environment:
    - a. larger leaves: for plants that live in shady places. This is so that it can collect more sunlight.
    - b. Vines climbing on trees: benefit the vines so that it can get higher and receive more sunlight.
    - c. Venus flytraps and sundews are carnivorous plants. These plants do photosynthesize but they also eat insects and other small animals because the soil that they are planted in does not provide enough nutrients.
    - d. Plants need to protect themselves because: the cannot run away when someone wants to chop it down or eat off of it! (LOL!) some ways that they protect themselves are: thorns, spines, stinging hairs, poisons
    - e. Poisons are not always intended to kill an animal. It may be for the plant to taste bad.
- B. Animal Adaptations: Animals play dead, use camouflage, disguise themselves, use mimicry and live in groups as means of protecting themselves from predators. The also :
1. migrate: migration is the movement of a group of animals from one ecosystem to another.

A. Chains and Webs

1. Food chain: is the transfer of food and energy through a community. A food chain always begins with a producer.
2. Predator: an animal that hunts and eats other animals.
3. Prey: animals that are hunted by predators.
4. Food web: shows several food webs linked together. They show how organisms depend upon one another.

B. Energy Pyramid: shows the way that energy moves through an ecosystem. The pyramid shows one food chain. The bottom of the pyramid has the, producers with the largest amount of energy as they receive their energy directly from the sun. At the top of the pyramid, there are fewer consumers because there is less energy available for them. Only about 10% of the energy gained is passed to the next organism on the food chain.

1. Competition: when two or more organisms are trying to use the same resources. It can be between members of the same or different species.
2. Competition helps to keep the ecosystem balanced. If there is a limit on certain type of prey, organisms may die off because of a lack of food. The opposite is true, there may be an abundance of a certain prey and that would make the population of the predator increase.

IV. Meeting Needs

A. Plant Adaptations

animal eats, when it eats and how it protects itself and raises its young.

## II. Roles in an Ecosystem

A. The Sun: The sun is the source of all energy. Plants use energy from sunlight to produce food in a process called photosynthesis. The plants primarily use this food to grow and reproduce.

1. Producers: organisms that make their own food. All life depends on producers.

Plants are producers.

2. Consumers: all living things that depend on producers for food. Humans are consumers.

a. Herbivores: consumers that primarily eat plants.

b. Omnivores: consumers that eat both producers and other consumers.

c. Carnivores: consumers that primarily eat other consumers.

d. Scavengers: consumers that keep our ecosystem clean. Most scavengers are carnivores.

They eat remains of another carnivore's kill or road kill, or animals that have died from disease, (ew!)

e. Decomposers: these organisms help to break down dead things and wastes So that minerals return to the environment. Most decomposers are bacteria. Others are molds, mushrooms and earthworms.

(There is still one other consumer and these are insectivores. These organisms prey on insects primarily. An example of this is the giant anteater).

## III. Energy in an Ecosystem

Chapter 7 BJU Science Notes

I. Parts of an Ecosystem

1. Ecosystem: all the living organisms and their environment. In a certain section of the earth.
  - a. Ecosystems vary in size. They can be as large as a biome or as small as a rotting tree stump.
  - b. There are two parts of an ecosystem: they are living things and nonliving things. The environment is the nonliving part and the living things include plants, animals as well as bacteria that are too small to be seen.
  - c. The environment affects the kinds of organisms that can live in the ecosystem.
2. Individuals v. population: one living member of an ecosystem is an individual. All of one type of organism in an ecosystem is considered a population.
  - a. A species is a specific kind of organism.
3. Community v. population: A community is larger than a population. A community includes all the different populations that live in a particular ecosystem.
  - a. Habitat: a place to live.
  - b. Niche: an organisms function or job in an ecosystem. A population can share a type of habitat and food, however they can never share the same niche. A niche includes what an