**Lesson 1: Abiotic and Biotic Factors in Ecosystems**

**Ecosystems**

An \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is made up of all the organisms in an area and their relationships with each other and with the non-living parts of their environment.

**Biotic Factors**

The living components of an ecosystem are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ factors.

**Examples of Biotic Factors:**

* Animals
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Fungi
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Protists

**Abiotic Factors**

The non-living components of an ecosystem are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ factors.

**Examples of Abiotic Factors:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Soil and rocks
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Carbon
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Limiting Factors**

Anything that limits the number of individuals that can live in ecosystem is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ factor.

**Examples of Limiting Factors:**

* Food
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Climate
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Shelter
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Carrying Capacity**

The largest number of individuals of the same species that an area can support is called its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ capacity.

**Example**

The wooded area between BMS and Makita only has enough food, water, and living space for a certain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of deer, rabbits, and squirrels.

**Lesson 1 Summary**

* Ecosystems vary greatly in their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ factors.
* Ecosystems can be affected by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ events, such as droughts and severe weather.
* Ecosystems can be affected by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and other organisms.
* Ecosystems can be affected by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.