

Populations and Communities ▪ *Guided Reading and Study*

Living Things and the Environment

This section describes what organisms need and how their environments provide for their needs. The section also describes how organisms live together in populations and communities.

Use Target Reading Skills

As you read the Habitats section, write the main idea—the biggest or most important idea—in the graphic organizer below. Then write three supporting details that give examples of the main idea.

Main Idea		
Detail	Detail	Detail

Habitats

1. An _____ obtains food, water, shelter, and other things it needs to live, grow, and reproduce from its environment.
2. The place where an organism lives and that provides the things the organism needs is called its _____.
3. What needs of an organism are provided by its habitat?

4. Is the following sentence true or false? An area contains only one habitat.

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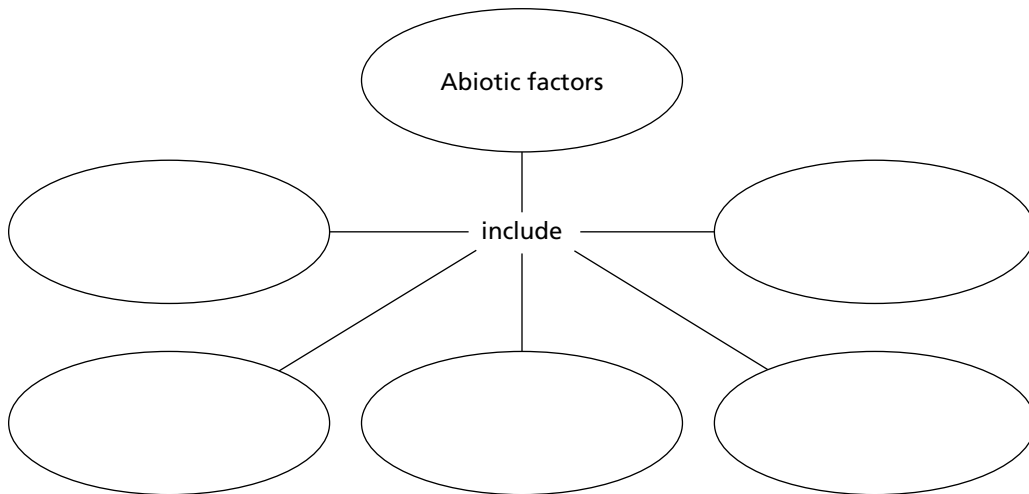
Living Things and the Environment *(continued)*

Biotic Factors

5. Circle the letter of each choice that is a biotic factor in a prairie dog ecosystem.
- a. Grass and other plants that the prairie dog eats
 - b. Hawks, ferrets, and other animals that hunt the prairie dog
 - c. The soil that provides the prairie dog with a home
 - d. Worms, fungi, and bacteria that also live in the soil
6. The living parts of a habitat are called _____.

Abiotic Factors

7. The nonliving parts of a habitat are called _____.
8. Complete the concept map.



9. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about water.
- a. It is needed by all living things.
 - b. It makes up 95 percent of the human body.
 - c. It is needed by algae and plants to make food.
 - d. It is an abiotic factor only for organisms that actually live in the water.
10. The process in which plants and algae make food using water, sunlight, and carbon dioxide is called _____.

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11. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about oxygen.

- a. Humans can live only a few hours without it.
- b. Organisms that live on land get it from the air.
- c. It makes up about 40 percent of air.
- d. Fish get it from the water around them.

Levels of Organization

12. What is a species?

13. Circle the letter of each choice that is an example of a population.

- a. All the prairie dogs in a prairie dog town
- b. All the bees in a hive
- c. All the pigeons in New York City
- d. All the trees in a forest

14. Is the following sentence true or false? All populations live in the same-sized area. _____

15. All the different populations that live together in an area make up a(n) _____.

16. Circle the letter of the choice that lists the levels of organization in an ecosystem from the smallest unit of organization to the largest.

- a. Population, organism, community, ecosystem
- b. Organism, population, ecosystem, community
- c. Organism, community, population, ecosystem
- d. Organism, population, community, ecosystem



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Living Things and the Environment *(continued)*

17. Is the following sentence true or false? To be considered a community, populations must live close enough together to interact.

18. In addition to a community of different species, what else does an ecosystem include?

