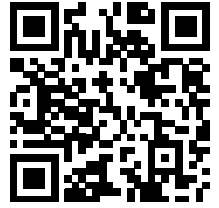


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# Physical Geography and Ecosystems



Ecosystems play a crucial role in \_\_\_\_\_ geography by influencing and being influenced by the Earth's surface features. An \_\_\_\_\_ is a community of living organisms and their non-living environment working together as a system. These systems can range from tiny \_\_\_\_\_ to large forests or even the entire planet. In an ecosystem, \_\_\_\_\_ and animals depend on each other and their \_\_\_\_\_ to survive. For example, plants use sunlight to produce food through \_\_\_\_\_, a process that not only feeds the plants but also supplies \_\_\_\_\_ for animals to breathe. In return, animals contribute carbon \_\_\_\_\_ for plants to use in photosynthesis. Decomposers, like fungi and \_\_\_\_\_, play a vital role by breaking down dead material, releasing \_\_\_\_\_ back into the soil, which plants then use to grow. This cycle of energy and nutrients flow is what maintains the \_\_\_\_\_ within an ecosystem. Changes in an ecosystem, whether natural or human-induced, can significantly affect the \_\_\_\_\_ of an area. For instance, deforestation can lead to \_\_\_\_\_ and alter the landscape. Similarly, the introduction of an invasive \_\_\_\_\_ can disrupt the balance of an ecosystem, leading to unforeseen changes in the physical \_\_\_\_\_. Understanding ecosystems is essential for managing natural \_\_\_\_\_ and conserving the environment, highlighting the interconnectedness of life and the \_\_\_\_\_ we call home.

- planet
- environment
- photosynthesis
- species
- dioxide
- physical
- soil erosion
- ecosystem
- geography
- nutrients
- plants
- surroundings
- bacteria
- balance
- resources
- oxygen
- ponds