



Science Focus Unit 1 – Interactions and Ecosystems
Review Booklet

Topic 1 Interactions Within an Ecosystem

What is the Science of **Ecology**? (p. 6)

Describe the work an **ecologist** would do. (p. 6-7)

Describe the **basic needs** of all living organisms. (p. 8)

Explain what an **adaptation** is and provide examples of how organisms '**adapt**' to their environments. (p. 10-11)

Describe the **interdependent relationships** of organisms within a particular ecosystem. (p. 14-15)

Symbiosis

Commensalism

Mutualism

Parasitism



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What **impact** do certain organisms have on their environment (give specific examples) (p. 16)

Topic 2 Human Impacts on Ecosystems

What are **natural resources** and how do humans use them? (p. 18-19)

How have the interactions that people have within an environment **changed over time**? (p. 20-21)

How do human **needs and wants** impact natural environments? (p. 22-23)

Can we **predict what impacts** humans have within an ecosystem? (p. 24-25)

How can **natural disasters** impact the environment?

Topic 3 Environmental Choices

What is an **ecological footprint** and how is it calculated? (p. 29-31)



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How can our understanding and knowledge of **Science and Technology** enable us to how we affect our environment? (p. 30-31)

How can this assessment then be used to **reduce our impact**? (p. 33, 35)

Topic 4 How Organisms Interact

Explain the difference between **biotic** and **abiotic** parts of the environment. (p. 38)

What is a **niche**? (p. 38)

Describe different **niches** within a particular environment. (p. 40)

Explain the difference between a **food chain** and a **food web**. (p. 42-43)

Explain how the **pyramid of numbers** can demonstrate the health of an ecosystem. (p. 43)



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Describe the roles of the *scavengers and decomposers*. (p. 44-45)

Scavengers	Decomposers

Topic 5 Cycles in the Environment

Describe and Illustrate the *Energy cycle*. (p. 42)

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Describe and Illustrate the *Carbon cycle*. (p. 49)

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Describe and Illustrate the **Water cycle**. (p. 51)

Define **pollution** and give specific examples. (p. 52)

What is **bioaccumulation** (also called, **biomagnification**) and what effect does it have within the food chain?. (p. 53-54)

Topic 6 Succession and Change in Ecosystems

Describe **primary succession** and **secondary succession**. (p. 56-57)

How well do organisms **adapt** to human invasion in an ecosystem? (p. 60)

Describe different ways that **pests** can be controlled in an ecosystem. (p. 61-62)



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What impact can the introduction of **exotic species**, by humans, have on an ecosystem? (p. 62-63)

Describe the difference between **extinction** and **extirpation**? (p. 64)

What are the main reasons why a **species** could be **at risk**? (p. 64)

Topic 6 Environmental Monitoring

What are some techniques used to check (**monitor**) the condition of an environment? (p. 68-70)

What is an **environmental impact assessment**? (p.74, 78)

Notes Index <http://www.edquest.ca/Notes/noteindex7.html>

Review Quiz Index <http://www.edquest.ca/Tests/testindex7sf.html>

SCIENCE FOCUS 7 Textbook

Unit At a Glance p. 84

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