



**Directed Reading for  
Content Mastery**

**Key Terms  
Interactions of Life**

**Directions:** Select the term from the following list that matches each description.

- |           |                   |              |                 |           |
|-----------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|
| biosphere | carrying capacity | commensalism | community       | consumer  |
| ecology   | ecosystem         | habitat      | limiting factor | niche     |
| mutualism | parasitism        | population   | producer        | symbiosis |

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. how an organism survives, including its habitat, how it obtains food and shelter, and how it avoids danger
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. the place in which an organism lives
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. all the organisms in an ecosystem that belong to the same species
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. all the populations in an ecosystem
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. all the organisms living in an area and the nonliving features of their environment
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. the part of Earth that supports life, including the top portion of Earth's crust, all the waters that cover Earth's surface, and the surrounding atmosphere
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. anything that restricts the number of individuals in a population
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. the largest number of individuals of one species that an ecosystem can support over time
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. the study of interactions that occur among organisms and their environment
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. organisms that use an outside energy source, such as the Sun, to make energy-rich molecules
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. organisms that cannot make their own energy-rich molecules
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. any close relationship between species
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. a symbiotic relationship in which both species benefit
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. a symbiotic relationship in which one organism benefits and the other is not affected
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. a symbiotic relationship in which one organism benefits but the other is harmed

Meeting Individual Needs

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