

Vocabulary List

Habitat Definitions

Habitat -	A home for wildlife with the proper food, water, shelter and space
Vacant lot -	Unused open spaces in cities and towns such as abandoned building sites, patches of soil around Street trees edges of railroad rights-of-way, unpaved strips around parking lots and similar habitats
Grassy field -	Piece of open or cleared land that contains mostly short, soft-stemmed plants.
Playground -	Outdoor play area (may be grassy or wood chipped.)
Meadow -	Area of land populated with perennial herbs, grasses and shrubs.
Shrub thicket -	Area covered in shrubs (woody plants with multiple stems growing from ground level and usually not reaching more than 10 feet in height).
Woodland -	Land having cover of trees and shrubs.
Swamp -	A seasonally flooded wooded wetland.
Pond -	Shallow body of non-moving water in which rooted aquatic vegetation can survive.
Stream -	Small body of moving water which usually remains unfrozen and oxygenated in the winter but may dry up in the summer
Stream bank -	The slope of land on the edges of a stream
Edge community -	Area that borders two habitats; a transition zone.
Vernal pond -	Pond that fills up only in the spring; in dry years a vernal pond may have little or no water

Species Definitions

Amphibian -	Animal born from a jelly-like egg that lives in an aquatic habitat. It breathes through gills when young and usually lives primarily on land breathing by lungs as an adult. Examples are frogs, toads, and salamanders.
Bird -	Animal that has wings and a body covered with feathers. Birds have backbones, are warm-blooded, lay hard-shelled eggs and most can fly. Some examples are hawks, bluebirds, robins, owls, ducks, and geese.
Fish -	Animal that lives in the water; has a backbone, gills for breathing, fins and scales. Fish are cold-blooded and live in fresh and salt water. Some examples are bass, trout, eels, and sunfish.
Insect -	A group of small invertebrates whose body is divided into three sections (head, thorax, and abdomen) with Six legs, an exoskeleton and usually two or four wings. Some examples are flies, ants, grasshoppers, beetles, butterflies.
Mammal -	Animal that is warm-blooded, has a backbone, is usually covered in fur or has hair. Female mammals produce milk to feed their young. Some examples are humans, deer, bats, dogs, woodchucks, squirrels.
Reptile -	Cold-blooded animal that has a backbone and dry, scaly skin. Most reptiles reproduce by laying eggs with leathery shells. Some examples are snakes, lizards, turtles, alligators.

Other definitions

Analyze -	To study something carefully by looking at lots of different information.
BioBlitz -	A snapshot look at a defined area over a twenty-four period of time. The goal is to gather as much information as possible on living things in that environment, counting species and looking at diversity.
Biodiversity -	Term used to represent the variety of life forms in a given area.
Crepuscular -	Active at dawn or dusk, e.g., deer, bats.
Data -	Facts, figures and other important information.
Deciduous -	Trees that shed their leaves at the end of the growing season.
Diurnal -	Active by daylight.
Evergreen -	Plant having foliage that remains green throughout the year.
Foliage -	Leaves on a tree or other plant.
Nocturnal -	Active by night, e.g., raccoon, skunk.
Perennial -	Plant that produces seeds and reproduces each year.
Raptor -	Birds that are predatory and prey on other animals.
Scat -	Animal waste.
Terrestrial -	Living or growing on land.