

Name _____ Date _____

Ecosystems

1. An ecosystem can be described as...
2. Each ecosystem has its own particular _____.
3. How have prairie dogs adapted to their ecosystem? How have bison adapted to their ecosystem?
4. _____, _____, and _____ are the nonliving parts of an ecosystem.
5. What is a community?
6. What is a habitat?
7. What is a population?
8. What has happened to much of the prairie ecosystem in the United States?
9. Each species in an ecosystem performs a special function, or role, called a _____.
10. Explain the difference between a predator and prey.
11. How do ecosystems stay in balance?
12. How have many plants adapted to survive fires?
13. What does it mean to become extinct?
14. How have coyotes adapted to living around humans?

15. In North America, the bison population fell from more than _____ in 1800 to _____ in 1900.
16. Every population in an ecosystem needs energy from _____ to survive.
17. What happens if the owl population grows so large that it eats most of the rats?
18. A plant soaks up rays from the sun and uses this _____ energy to make its own food. This food has energy in a new form called _____ energy.
19. Draw an example of a food chain. Label each picture.
20. Explain the difference between a producer and a consumer.
21. What is the job of a decomposer?
22. Define and give an example for each term:
Herbivore –
Carnivore –
Omnivore –
Scavenger –
23. What is a food web?
24. What is an endangered species?
25. How can scientists help save endangered species?
26. What are an animal's instincts?