

Some terms we use with trees

not on test

Coniferous Forest vs Deciduous Forest

Deciduous = the dropping of a part that is no longer needed, in this case leaves

Coniferous = bearing pinecones, most of which are evergreen

Evergreen = retaining leaves year round, therefore remaining “forever green”

Broadleaf = a thin, broad leaf structure with a good deal of surface area

Needle = a thin, long modified leaf typical of conifers

Hardwood = another commonly used word for deciduous, broadleaf trees

Softwood = usually refers to coniferous trees

POEM...If the Earth Were Only a Few Feet in Diameter

If the Earth Were Only a Few Feet in Diameter



Joe Miller, "If the Earth Were Only a Few Feet in Diameter..."

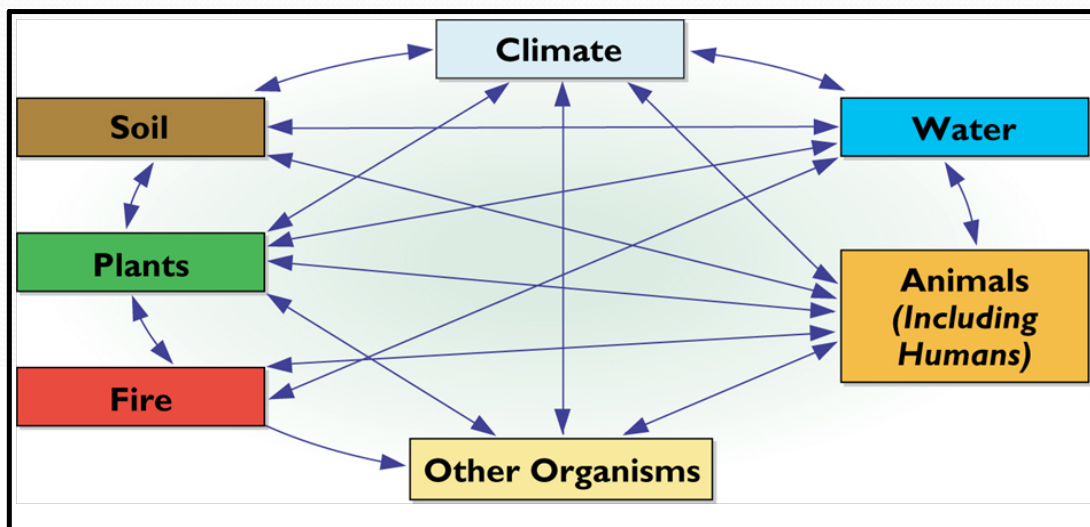


"If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter, floating a few feet above a field somewhere, people would come from everywhere to marvel at it. People would walk around it marveling at its big pools of water, its little pools, and the water flowing between the pools. People would marvel at the bumps on it, and the holes in it, and they would marvel at the very thin layer of gas surrounding it and the water suspended in the gas. The people would marvel at all the creatures walking around the surface of the ball and at the creatures in the water. The people would declare it sacred because it was the only one, and they would protect it so that it would not be hurt. The ball would be the greatest wonder known, and people would come to pray to it, to be healed, to gain knowledge, to know beauty, and to wonder how it could be. People would love it and defend it with their lives because they would somehow know that their lives, their own roundness, could be nothing without it. If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter..."

- Joe Miller

Ecosystems

- All of the organisms living in an area together with their physical environment.
 - There can be great variation from one ecosystem to another.
 - However, ecosystems overlap.
- *Ecosystem* Requirements include energy, mineral nutrients, water, oxygen, and living organisms.



Factors in Ecosystems

Biotic (living) factors include:

- Plants } organisms
- Animals }
- Dead organisms & Waste Products
(came from living at one time)

Abiotic (nonliving) factors include:

- Air
- Water
- Soil
- Rocks
- Light
- Temperature
- Climate

Habitat

- ~~x~~ The place where an organism lives.
- Specific characteristics that the organism needs to survive.
- Typically, a species cannot survive for very long if their habitat changes too drastically.