

## Word List – With Definitions

<b>Word</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>climate</b>	<b>a region with specified weather conditions or the average weather conditions of a particular place or region</b>
<b>factors</b>	<b>numbers that are multiplied to get a product</b>
<b>floor</b>	<b>a ground surface</b>
<b>biotic</b>	<b>having to do with the living part of the ecosystem</b>
<b>canopy</b>	<b>the part of a forest just below the uppermost branches of the tallest trees</b>
<b>corals</b>	<b>stony or horny deposits that are composed of the skeletons of polyps</b>
<b>decomposers</b>	<b>organisms that break down other organisms</b>
<b>desert</b>	<b>a major terrestrial environment that receives less than 25 centimeters (10 inches) of rain each year</b>
<b>ecosystems</b>	<b>communities of organisms interacting with each other and with the nonliving environment</b>
<b>environments</b>	<b>different sets of living and nonliving things that surround given organisms</b>
<b>layers</b>	<b>thicknesses or folds over and under one another, as in layers of rock</b>
<b>living</b>	<b>having life</b>
<b>microorganisms</b>	<b>organisms that are too small to see without a microscope such as bacteria and algae</b>
<b>nonliving</b>	<b>never having been alive or no longer alive</b>
<b>ponds</b>	<b>standing-water environments that are small and shallow</b>
<b>reefs</b>	<b>rocks or ridges of sand at or near the surface of water</b>
<b>temperature</b>	<b>the degree of hotness or coldness of something (as air, water, or the body) as shown by a thermometer</b>
<b>tortoises</b>	<b>land dwelling turtles</b>
<b>tropical</b>	<b>of, relating to, occurring in, or used in the tropics, an environment that is warm or hot all year</b>