

## 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>adaptations</b>	<b>special traits that help an organism survive in its environment</b>
<b>biotic</b>	<b>having to do with the living part of the ecosystem</b>
<b>camouflage</b>	<b>an adaptation that allows an animal to blend into its surroundings</b>
<b>decomposers</b>	<b>organisms that break down other organisms</b>
<b>drought</b>	<b>less-than-normal amount of rain or snow over a period of time</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>extinction</b>	<b>the condition or fact of being extinct, the process of becoming extinct</b>
<b>humans</b>	<b>bipedal primate mammals (Homo sapiens); man, hominids</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>nocturnal</b>	<b>active at night</b>
<b>nonliving</b>	<b>never having been alive or no longer alive</b>
<b>oxygen</b>	<b>a gas that most plants and animals need to live</b>
<b>pollution</b>	<b>the act or result of polluting</b>
<b>reproduction</b>	<b>the process of creating more of the same kind of organism</b>
<b>shelter</b>	<b>a home or place that gives protection to organisms</b>
<b>survival</b>	<b>the act or fact of living or continuing longer than another person or thing</b>
<b>weathering</b>	<b>the process by which larger rocks are cracked and broken over time to form smaller rocks</b>