

Energy in Ecosystems Outline

Lesson 1: What is an Ecosystem?

I. Living and Non-living Parts of an Ecosystem

A. Ecosystems

1. Your back yard is an ecosystem
2. **Ecosystem** - all the living and non-living things in an environment
3. Can be large as a forest, small as a water drop

B. Living Parts of an Ecosystem

1. Animals and plants are living parts
2. They interact in many different ways

Example - trees give shelter to birds/birds spread seeds

C. The Non-living Parts

1. Soil, water, sunlight and air

Example -flowers need water, soil and sunlight

2. Bugs and worms tunnel and help get water and air into the soil

D. You're part of an Ecosystem

1. You are part of the ecosystem where you live
2. It affects you - the air, water, food you eat
3. You affect it - plant something, don't pollute

II. Habitat

A. Habitat

1. A habitat is a place where an animal or plant lives
2. Habitats provide shelter, water and food for living things

Example - A whale's habitat is the ocean