7D Ecosystems

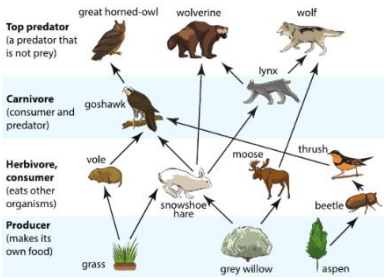
1. Variation	
Habitat	The place where an organism lives.
Variation	The difference between organisms.
Continuous	Type of variation where the measurement can be any value in a given range. *e.g. height, mass*
Discontinuous	Type of variation where the measurement falls into certain categories. *e.g. eye colour, blood group*
Offspring	The new organism produced by reproduction.
Species	Group of organisms that can reproduce to produce offspring that can also reproduce.
Hybrid	The offspring of two different species. They cannot reproduce.

2. Adaptations	
Environment	The conditions in a habitat.
Adaptations	Features that help an organism to survive in the environment where it lives.
Cactus Adaptations	• Stem stores water • roots cover large area to absorb water • no leaves to stop water loss
Community	All the animals and plants that live in a habitat.
Ecosystem	The community and all the physical environmental factors together.
Inherited Variation	Variation between features caused by an organism's DNA

3. Effects of the Environment	
Environmental Variation	Variation caused by environmental factors. *e.g. hairstyle, accent*
Nocturnal	Animals that are only active at night.
Deciduous	Trees that lose their leaves in winter to stop water loss.
Evergreen	Trees with tougher leaves that don't lose much water so they keep them all year.
Hibernation	Organisms become inactive in winter so they don't need food.
Migration	Birds fly to warmer places for winter to find food.

4. Effects on the Environment	
Resources	What an organism needs to survive and grow- oxygen, food, water, etc. for animals.
Population	The numbers of a specific organism.
Food Chain	Represents what eats what in a habitat Grass → hare → lynx
Competition	Organisms compete over the resources that they need.
Food Web	Formed by joining together all food chains in an ecosystem.

Food Web Example



Interdependent	Organisms in an ecosystem all depend on one another.
Predator	Eats another animal.
Prey	Eaten by another animal.

5. Transfers in Food Chains	
Food Chain Arrows	Represent energy passed between organisms.
Energy Flow	Energy is lost at each stage along a food chain due to being released by respiration for movement etc. and some food remains undigested.
Pesticides	Poison that kills pests.
Pests	Organisms that cause problems.