Biosphere basics

**New Terms:**

**Biosphere** – a global ecosystem composed of living organisms and the abiotic (nonliving) factors from which they derive energy and nutrients.

**Population** – a group of organisms of one species that interbreed and live in the same place at the same time.

**Biocoenosis** – all the interacting organisms that live together in a specific habitat or biotope, forming an ecological community.

**Biotope** – the habitat together with its recurring associated community of species, operating together at a particular scale.

**Ecosystem** – аn ecosystem is a system consisting of biotic and abiotic components that function together as a unit.

**Boundaries of the biosphere**

Lower boundary of the biosphere in the letosphere – around 2-3 km in depth.

Lower boundary of the biosphere in the hydrosphere – 11 km in depth.

Upper boundary of the biosphere in the atmosphere – around 20-25 km above ground level.