

General Ecology

Ecology: how organisms interact with one another and with their environment

Environment: abiotic and biotic features

Levels of Organization: Population (same species) > Community (diff. species, biotic) > Ecosystem (community+abiotic) > Biosphere (portion of Earth w/living species)

Aquatic Ecosystems

Lentic Ecosystems (STILL Water)

Ponds Bottom of the pond still receives light, unlike lakes. **Horizontal Lake Zones**

Littoral Zone: Near the shoreline; Sunlight penetrates all the way to sediments; Allows for aquatic plants (**macrophytes**) to grow. **Limnetic Zone** open water, away from shore. **Vertical Lake Zones**