

**Worksheet 3 Ecosystems****Ecosystems**

An ecosystem is all the things that interact in a specific area, whether they are living or non-living. Some examples of non-living things that support life in an ecosystem are light, air, soil, and water. Living things are the plants and animals, called organism, that use those resources.

Each of the specific ecosystems in the world has its own condition created by the non-living things. These conditions determine what kinds of living things will be able to thrive<sup>1</sup> there. Organisms can only thrive where their needs have an effect on it. One ecosystem that allows many different kinds of organisms thrive is temperate zone<sup>2</sup>. It is an area where the conditions never become too hot or too cold.

All the living things in an ecosystem are called a community. All of one specific kind of organism living in a community is called a population. All the tree frogs in a rainforest community are one population within the community. All the white birch tree are another population within the same community. All the jaguars are yet another rainforest community population.

All living organism perform certain life processes. They take in nutrients<sup>3</sup> like air, sunlight, water, and food. They use energy from those nutrients to grow and develop. They release energy by doing work and moving. They release waste products. They react to things in their environment. They reproduce, producing offspring<sup>4</sup>, or babies, that are similar to themselves.

<sup>1</sup>เจริญเติบโต<sup>2</sup>เขตอบอุ่น<sup>3</sup>สารอาหาร<sup>4</sup>ลูกหลาน

**I. Instruction:** Answer the following questions based on the reading passage.

1. What is one example of a non-living thing in an ecosystem?

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2. What are three of life processes that living organism do?

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3. What does population mean in a community?

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4. When does an organism thrive?

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5. Why does a temperate zone support many varieties of organism?

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## Ecosystem

