

## Ecosystems

An ecosystem is a place where **living** and **non-living** things interact with each other and depend on each other. **Plants** and **animals** are living things in an ecosystem. The non-living things include **rocks, soil, water, and air**.



A **vegetable garden** is a garden that grows vegetables and other plants useful for human consumption in contrast to a flower garden that exists for aesthetic purposes. It typically includes a **compost heap**, and several plots of divided areas of land, to grow various types of plants.

A **containerized** garden could be made from a box covered with plastic; an old tire or big pots, large food cans, wooden boxes, pails, washtubs, and flower pots. Vegetables such as carrots, radishes, lettuce, tomatoes, and peppers are perfect for container gardens.

2. Which best describes an ecosystem? [1]

- (A) a system where populations stay the same
- (B) anywhere there is only one kind of organism
- (C) a system where living and nonliving things interact
- (D) a place where there is always rain, soil, sunlight, and air

3. Which garden would the tire belong to? Write your answer on the line. [1]



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4. Circle the vegetable that would not grow in a container garden. [1]



5. Other than water, name THREE other things in an ecosystem? [3]

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