Vocabulary

- **Abiotic**- nonliving, physical rather than biological
- **Biotic**- of, relating to, or resulting from living things, especially in their ecological relations
- **Biodiversity**- the variety of life in the world or in a particular habitat or ecosystem
- **Biome**- a large naturally occurring community of flora and fauna occupying a major habitat
- **Ecosystem**- a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment
- **Endangered Species**- a species of animal or plant that is seriously at risk of extinction
- **Geography**- the study of the physical features of the earth and its atmosphere, and of human activity as it affects and is affected by these, including the distribution of populations and resources, land use, and industries
- **Habitat**- the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism
- **Invasive Species**- an organism (plant, animal, fungus, or bacterium) that is not native and has negative effects on our economy, our environment, or our health. Not all introduced species are invasive
- **Native Species**- an organism that is either endemic (found only within a particular region) or indigenous (found both within the region and elsewhere)
- **Species Inventory**- a collection of species names organized by location or some other defining characteristic, this inventory can be used to study the variety of species in certain areas
- **Sonoran Desert**- a desert biome located in North America which covers large parts of the Southwestern United States in Arizona and California, and Northwestern Mexico in Sonora, Baja California and Baja California Sur. It is characterized by its high aridity and adapted plant and animal life.

Descriptive words for plant observations

- Spiny, prickly, soft, rough, waxy, aquatic, aromatic, bare, bushy, flowing, blooming, leafy, lush, healthy, withered, wilting

Descriptive words for animal observations

- Scaly, smooth, furry, hairy, fuzzy, feathered, flying, migratory, nocturnal, omnivorous, carnivorous, herbivorous, poisonous, warm-blooded, cold-blooded, aquatic, domestic, wild