

- 1. biodiversity:** the existence of many different kinds of plants and animals in an environment
- 2. carbohydrate:** a compound that provides energy to living cells
- 3. cell:** a microscopic part of an organism that makes up all living things
- 4. cellular respiration:** the process of breaking down sugar into a form that the cell can use as energy
- 5. cellulose:** a substance that is the main part of the cell walls of plants and that is used in making various products (such as paper)
- 6. chromosome:** the part of a cell that contains the genes which control how an animal or plant grows and what it becomes
- 7. climate:** the usual weather conditions in a particular place or region
- 8. coniferous:** trees or bushes that have needle-shaped or scale-like leaves, including forms that are evergreen and produce cones or fleshy, bright-colored fruit
- 9. deciduous:** trees or shrubs that shed their leaves during the winter or dry season
- 10. decomposition:** to be slowly destroyed and broken down by natural processes such as the decaying of an organism like dead plants or animals
- 11. ecosystem:** everything that exists in a particular environment, including living things, such as plants and animals, and things that are not living, such as rocks, soil, sunlight, and water
- 12. fungi:** any one of a group of living things (such as molds, mushrooms, or yeasts) that often look like plants but have no flowers and that assist in breaking down dead or decaying organisms
- 13. evergreen:** trees or bushes that are always green and have leaves year-round
- 14. germinate:** to cause (a seed) to begin to grow
- 15. habitat:** the place or type of place where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives or grows
- 16. hydrogen:** a chemical element that has no color or smell and that is the simplest, lightest, and most common element
- 17. mammal:** a type of animal that feeds milk to its young and that usually has hair or fur covering most of its skin
- 18. photosynthesis:** the process by which a green plant turns water and carbon dioxide into food when the plant is exposed to the sun. Photosynthesis in plants generally involves the green pigment chlorophyll and creates oxygen as a byproduct.
- 19. physical geography:** the natural features of an environment such as rivers, mountains, etc
- 20. organelle:** any of a number of organized or specialized structures within a living cell
- 21. organism:** an individual living thing that is made up of cells
- 22. oxygen:** a chemical that is a byproduct of photosynthesis and is found in the air, has no color, taste, or smell, and is necessary for life
- 23. region:** a part of a state, a country, etc., that is different or separate from other parts in some way
- 24. reptile:** an animal (such as a snake, lizard, turtle, or alligator) that has cold blood, lays eggs, and has a body covered with scales or hard parts
- 25. semipermeable:** allowing certain substances to pass through it but not others
- 26. species:** a group of animals or plants that are similar and can reproduce
- 27. urban:** of or relating to cities and the people who live in them
- 28. vegetation:** plants that cover a particular area