CHAPTER ONE: ECOSYSTEMS

**Vocabulary to know**

1. A temperate zone is an area where temperatures rarely get very hot or very cold.
2. An organism is a living thing.
3. An ecosystem is made up of all the living and non-living things that interact in an area.
4. The environment is everything that surrounds and affects a living organism.
5. A population is made up of all of the organisms of the same kind that live in a community.
6. A community is all of the organisms in an ecosystem.

Concepts to know:

1. The five basic needs of all living things are: air, water, energy, nutrients, and shelter.
2. The 6 life processes are: take in nutrients; grow and develop; release energy; react to surroundings; give off wastes; and reproduce.
3. Land and Water Ecosystems we learned about:
   1. Desert: dry, hot air; very little rainfall; sandy soil; cacti grow there
   2. Chaparral: wet, mild winters and very hot, dry summers (California has the only chaparral in North America!)
   3. Rainforest: very rainy, near the equator, thousands of species
   4. Taiga: long, cold winters and short, cool summers; many evergreen trees
   5. Salt water: Includes coastal and open ocean; coral reefs: found in warm, tropical water
   6. Fresh water: includes moving water (streams and rivers) and still water (ponds and lakes)