**“Ecosystems” and “Flow of Energy” – 1st Assignment on CK-12: Unit 10 Ecology**

**READ – “Ecosystems”**

1. **FILL IN THE BLANKS and ANSWER QUESTIONS**
2. **Watch the Video “What’s the difference between biotic and abiotic factors?”**
3. **ANSWER the questions – Turn in your paper**
4. **COMPLETE the practice questions (on-line)**
5. **BOTH (paper and on-line) combined for one grade**

**Completion….. (Provide answers only)**

**Summary**

1. Ecology is the study of how living things interact with \_\_\_ \_\_\_ and with \_\_\_ \_\_\_.
2. The environment includes abiotic (\_\_\_) and biotic (\_\_\_) factors.
3. An \_\_\_ consists of all the biotic and abiotic factors in an area and their interactions.
4. A niche refers to the \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ in its ecosystem.
5. A habitat is the \_\_\_ environment in which a species lives and to which it is \_\_\_.
6. Two different species cannot occupy the same \_\_\_ in the same place for very long.

**Video**

1. The presence of \_\_\_ is essential for all living things.
2. Plants that live in the forest must either fight for sunlight by growing \_\_\_ or adapt to the \_\_\_ at the bottom.
3. Pollution can also be a significant factor in influencing access to \_\_\_.

**Review**

1. Define ecology.
2. Define biotic and abiotic factors of the environment.
3. Give an example of each.
4. How do ecologists define the term *ecosystem*?
5. What makes up an ecosystem?
6. State the competitive exclusion principle.
7. Compare and contrast the ecosystem concepts of *niche* and *habitat*.

**READ – “Flow of Energy”**

1. **FILL IN THE BLANKS and ANSWER QUESTIONS**
2. **Watch the Video “Banana Slugs Unpeeled”**
3. **ANSWER the questions – Turn in your paper**
4. **COMPLETE the practice questions (on-line)**
5. **BOTH (paper and on-line) combined for one grade**

**Summary**

1. Ecosystems require constant inputs of \_\_\_ from \_\_\_ or \_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_ use energy and inorganic molecules to make \_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_ take in food by eating producers or other living things.
4. Decomposers break down \_\_\_organisms and other organic \_\_\_ and release inorganic molecules back to the \_\_\_.

**Video**

1. A banana slug is bright \_\_\_ in color.
2. The two littler antennae are for \_\_\_ and for feeling.
3. The banana slug is a mollusk believed to have evolved from the \_\_\_.
4. Banana slugs are edible. They are a tough meal but \_\_\_ do eat them.
5. When in danger the banana slug will \_\_\_ up.

**Review**

1. Identify three different types of consumers.
   * 1. Name an example of each type.
2. What are photoautotrophs?
   * 1. Give an example of one.
3. What can you infer about an ecosystem that depends on chemoautotrophs for food?
4. What is the role of decomposers?
5. What do scavengers do?
   * 1. Give an example of a scavenger.