

Stanchester Academy
Year 11 - Geography- Summer Term -Living World

Keywords		
1	Ecosystem	a unit made of living and non-living components
2	biotic	living component e.g., plants, animals
3	abiotic	non-living component – e.g climate, soil, water
4	producer	living component which converts energy from the environment into food
5	consumer	receive energy from consumption of sugars produced by producers
6	decomposer	breaks down plant and animal matter, returning nutrients to soil e.g., bacteria/ fungi
7	photosynthesis	chlorophyll in plants converts energy from sunlight into sugars
8	food chain	direct link between producers and consumers in the form of a simple line
9	food web	shows links between all producers and consumers in an ecosystem
10	nutrient cycling	nutrients from plants and animals are recycled back into an ecosystem
11	biodiversity	range of plants and animals within an ecosystem that depend on each other to live
12	biome	global large-scale ecosystem

Tropical Rainforests		
1	buttress roots	wide ridges of roots that support base of the tree and transport water
2	drip tips	pointy tips that funnel water off the leaves to prevent rotting
3	epiphytes	air plants. live in branches high in the canopy to seek sunlight
4	lianas	woody creepers, rooted to the ground. carried by trees into canopy
5	leaching	heavy rainfall dissolving and carrying away nutrients in the soil
6	latosols	infertile, red, iron rich soils that are found in rainforest regions
7	shifting cultivation	land is cultivated for a short period of time, then left to rejuvenate
8	slash and burn	land cleared by fire putting nutrients into the soil to help plants grow
9	selective logging	fully grown trees are chosen to be cut down
10	subsistence farming	sustainable small-scale farming, where people grow enough food to eat
11	commercial farming	large scale farming with aim to maximise profits e.g., cattle ranching
12	carbon sink	the absorption of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and release of oxygen

Cold Environments		
1	polar	Antarctic circle and Greenland where temperatures can fall below -50c in winter
2	permafrost	frozen soil which thaws in summer
3	Svalbard	most northerly inhabited group of islands (Norway)
4	tundra	found in arctic circle from 60-70 north where temperatures drop to -20c in winter
5	geothermal energy	energy created by tectonic activity
6	infrastructure	water, electricity, roads, and sanitation supply
7	trans-Alaskan pipeline	oil pipeline across Alaska (Prudhoe Bay to Valdez)
8	Antarctic treaty	international agreement to protect natural environment of Antarctica
9	mineral extraction	mining/ quarrying for precious stones and metals/ fossil fuels
10	ecotourism	tourism which highlights the importance of the ecosystem in a sustainable way
11	polar bear	mammal with black nose, skin and paws to absorb heat, insulating fat, webbed paws

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