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**Environmental Science Unit 2 Chapter 4 Vocabulary**

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| Ecosystem | All the organisms living in an area together and their physical environment. |
| Biotic  Factor | Living and once living organisms. |
| Abiotic  Factor | Non-living parts of the ecosystem. |
| Organism | An individual living thing. |
| Species | A group of organisms that can mate to produce fertile offspring. |
| Population | All members of the same species that live in the same place at the same time. |
| Community | A group of different species that live in the same place and interact with each other. |
| Habitat | The place an organism lives. |
| Archaebacteria | Microscopic single celled organisms that do not have a nuclei and are found in harsh environments. |
| Eubacteria | Common microscopic organisms that do not have a nuclei. |
| Fungus | Organisms that absorb their nutrients, for example, mushrooms. |
| Evolution | A change in heredity over time. |
| Protist | Single celled organisms that can be animal, plant, or fungi like. |
| Natural Selection | Theory of evolution by Darwin, in which individuals that are better adapted to their environment, survive to reproduce. |
| Artificial Selection | The breeding of organisms by humans for selected traits. |
| Adaptation | A change in a trait that improves the chances of success of a population. |

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