

# Unit 1 Vocabulary

## Directions:

1. Highlight or underline 3 important words in the definition for each word.
2. Rewrite the definition for each word in your own words.
3. Create an illustration or memory aid (saying, etc...) for each word.

# Environmental Science

**Definition:** The study of the impact of humans on the environment.

**Example:** It is important to study **environmental science** because humans have a huge effect on the Earth.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Ecology

**Definition:** The study of how living things interact with each other and with their nonliving environment.

**Example:** By learning about **Ecology** we can better understand how organisms interact in nature.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Agriculture

**Definition:** The practice of growing, breeding, and caring for plants and animals used for our basic needs (like food).

**Example:** Through advances in **agriculture**, we are able to grow more food crops than ever before.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Natural Resource

**Definition:** A material found in nature and used by humans.

**Example:** Trees, water, air, and fossil fuels are all examples of **natural resources**.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Pollution

**Definition:** In the environment, something that has a harmful or poisonous effect.

**Example:** Some examples of **pollution** include oil spills, litter, and car exhaust.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Biodiversity

**Definition:** The number, variety, and genetic variation of organisms living in an area.

**Example:** Habitats with a large number of different types of species have high **biodiversity**.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Ecological Footprint

**Definition:** The impact of a person on the environment, shown as the amount of land required to continue their use of natural resources.

**Example:** Americans tend to have very large **ecological footprints** because we use large amounts of natural resources.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Sustainability

**Definition:** The condition in which human needs are met in a way that a human population can survive indefinitely.

**Example:** Working towards **sustainability** means conserving natural resources and taking better care of the planet.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Observation

**Definition:** A piece of information we gather using our senses.

**Example:** I made an **observation** that Mrs. Wiley's class is very colorful.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Inference

**Definition:** A conclusion drawn based upon observations and prior knowledge.

**Example:** Since Mrs. Wiley has lots of colorful things in her classroom we can make an **inference** that Mrs. Wiley likes bright colors.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Hypothesis

**Definition:** A testable idea or explanation.

**Example:** The **hypothesis** for this experiment is that plants watered with Miracle Gro will grow larger than plants watered with only water.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Prediction

**Definition:** A logical statement about what will happen if the hypothesis is supported.

**Example:** My **prediction** for this experiment is if I water 7 tomato plants with Miracle Gro and 7 tomato plants with water, then the plants watered with Miracle Gro will grow larger.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Experiment

**Definition:** A procedure designed to test a hypothesis under controlled conditions.

**Example:** We perform **experiments** to test hypotheses and learn about science.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Variable

**Definition:** Any item that can be controlled or changed in an experiment.

**Example:** An experiment includes a dependent, an independent, and controlled **variables**.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Experimental Group

**Definition:** The group receiving the experimental treatment.

**Example:** An **experimental group** is the one that has the experiment performed on it.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Control Group

**Definition:** The group not receiving the experimental treatment.

**Example:** The **control group** remains the same so it can be compared to the experimental group.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid:

# Data

**Definition:** Information a scientist gathers during an experiment.

**Example: Data** can be gathered as observations or measurements.

Definition in **YOUR** words:

Illustration or Memory Aid: