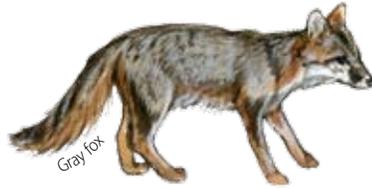


glossary



ab-do-men (ab-duh-muhn) *noun* — 1. The part of the body between the chest and the hips including the cavity in which the chief digestive organs lie. 2. The hind part of the body of an arthropod (as an insect).

al-gae (al-jee) *noun, plural* — Small plants without roots or stems that grow in water or on damp surfaces.

a-qua-tic (uh-kwat-ik or uh-kwot-ik) *adjective* — Living or growing in water, as in *aquatic plants and animals*

ben-e-fi-cial (ben-uh-fish-uhl) *adjective* — Something that is good.

ben-e-fi-cial ef-fect (ben-uh-fish-uhl uh-fekt) *noun* — The result or consequence of something good.

cam-ou-flage (kam-uh-flahzh) — 1. *noun*: Coloring or covering that makes animals, people, and objects look like their surroundings. 2. *verb*: To disguise something so that it blends in with its surroundings.

can-o-py (kan-uh-pee) *noun* — The top layer of a forest including the branches and leaves of the tallest trees.

car-ni-vore (kar-nuh-vor) *noun* — An animal that eats other animals; an animal that eats meat.

cave (kayv) *noun* — A natural hole underground or in the side of a hill or cliff; an opening in the earth caused by rock dissolving or collapsing.

chan-nel (chan-uhl) *noun* — 1. A narrow stretch of water between two areas of land. 2. The deeper part of a waterway.

com-mu-ni-ty (kuh-myoo-nuh-tee) *noun* — A group of different populations of plants and animals living in the same place at the same time and interacting with one another.

con-i-fer (kon-uh-fur or koh-nuh-fur) *noun* — An evergreen tree that produces cones.

con-i-fer-ous (kun-nif-ur-uhss) *adjective* — Cone-bearing trees or shrubs that do not lose their needles or leaves in the fall.

con-ser-va-tion (kon-sur-vay-shuhn) *noun* — Careful use of valuable things, especially forests, wildlife and natural resources.

con-su-mer (kuhn-soo-mur) *noun* — Organisms that eat other organisms to get the energy they need to survive; living thing that eats other living things for food.

de-cid-u-ous (di-sij-oo-yhss) *adjective* — Trees or shrubs that lose leaves in the fall and grow new ones in the spring.

de-com-pos-er (dee-kuhm-poze-ur) *noun* — An organism that feeds on and breaks down dead plant and animal matter, which provides nutrients for other plants and animals.



de-fense mech-an-ism (di-fenss mek-uh-niz-uhm) *noun* — Different ways organisms are protected or react to protect themselves from other organisms such as camouflage, mimicry, warning colorations or attack.

di-ges-tion (duh-jess-chuhn) *noun* — The process of breaking down and changing food in the stomach and other organs into simpler forms that can be absorbed into the blood and used by the body for growth.

di-ges-tive (duh-jess-tiv) *adjective* — Relating to digestion and the process of changing food into simpler forms that can be taken in and used by the body.

di-ges-tive tract (duh-jess-tiv trakt) *noun* — A group of parts or organs in the body that perform specific functions of digestion.

dis-perse (diss-purss) *verb* — To scatter.

di-ver-si-ty (di-vur-suh-tee) *noun* — A variety or assortment; having many differences.

dor-mant (dor-muhnt) *adjective* — An inactive state when plants or seeds are alive but not growing.

e-co-sys-tem (ee-koh-siss-tuhm or ek-oh-siss-tuhm) *noun* — Populations of plants and animals living together in communities and interacting with the living and non-living things in their environment.

e-merg-ent (i-murj-uhnt) *adjective* — Something that comes out or into view (as from water or a hole).

en-vi-ron-ment (en-vye-ruhn-muhnt) *noun* — Immediate area around a plant or animal.

e-ro-sion (i-roh-zhuhn) *noun* — The slow wearing away of a substance by water or wind, as in *soil erosion*.

ex-ter-nal cue (ek-stur-nuhl kyoo) *noun* — Something on the outside of a plant or animal serving as a signal or suggestion to change behavior.

flex-i-ble (flek-suh-buhl) *adjective* — Able to bend.

flood plain (fluhd plane) *noun* — An area of low land near a stream or river that becomes flooded during heavy rains.

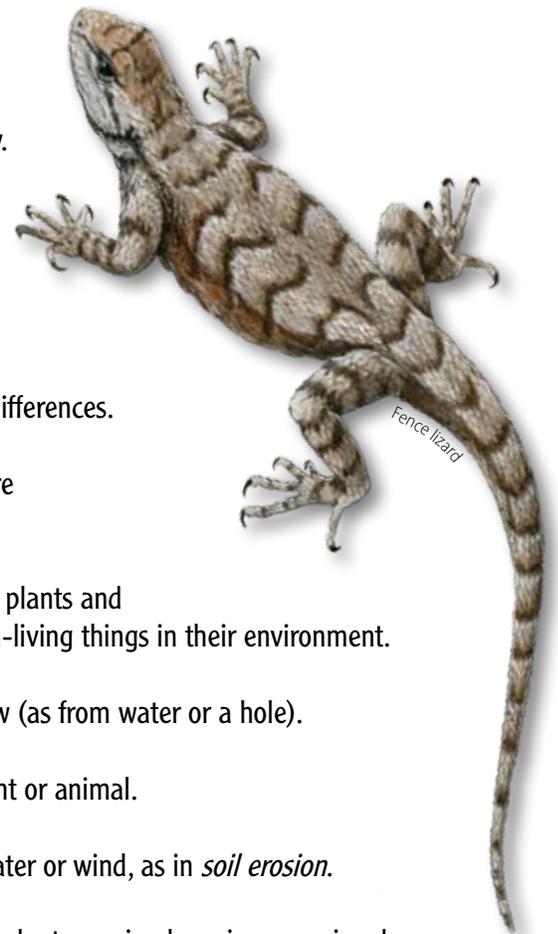
food chain (food chayn) *noun* — The transfer of food energy from one organism to another beginning with energy from the sun to producers to consumers.

for-age (for-ij) *verb* — To search for food.

forbs (forbz) *noun* — Wildflowers.

for-est (far-ist or for-ist) *noun* — An area of land covered mostly with trees and other plants.

for-est e-co-sys-tem (far-ist or for-ist ee-koh-siss-tuhm) *noun* — Populations of plants and animals living together in communities and interacting with other organisms and non-living things in a forest.



for-est floor (**far**-ist or **for**-ist **flor**) *noun* — Lowest layer of a forest covered with low-growing plants and mosses plus layers of decaying leaves, fallen trees and branches that add nutrients to the soil.

frond (**frond**) *noun* — Large, divided leaf of a plant such as a fern or palm.

glade (**glade**) *noun* — Dry, hot, sunny areas where only certain plants and animals can survive; usually small, rocky openings on hills in forests, woodlands and prairies.

gua-no (**guh**-noh) *noun* — Scat, feces, droppings from bats.

harm-ful (**harm**-ful) *adjective* — Something that injures or hurts.

harm-ful ef-fect (**harm**-ful uh-**fekt**) *noun* — The result or consequence of something causing injury or hurt.

har-vest (**har**-vist) *verb* — To hunt or gather food or trees for human use.

her-bi-vore (**hur**-buh-vor) *noun* — An animal that eats only plants.

hi-ber-nate (**hye**-bur-nate) *verb* — To spend the winter resting; condition where the body system slows down to save energy.

hi-ber-na-tion (**hye**-bur-nay-shun) *noun* — The act of spending the winter in a deep sleep with slower body functions.

in-stinct (**in**-stingkt) *noun* — Behavior that is natural rather than learned.

in-ter-act (**in**-tur-akt) *verb* — To act upon one another.

in-ter-ac-tion (**in**-tur-ak-shun) *noun* — Having an influence on something.

in-ter-nal cue (**in**-tur-nuhl **kyoo**) *noun* — Signal from inside a plant or animal that causes a change in behavior.

land-forms (**land**-formz) *noun* — Natural features on earth such as mountains, hills, valleys, plains and canyons.

liv-ing (**liv**-ing) *adjective* — The condition of being alive.

liv-ing thing (**liv**-ing **thing**) *noun* — Organism that is alive, needs air, food, water, shelter and space to survive, and is able to reproduce or create more of itself.

mi-cro-or-gan-ism (mye-kroh-**or**-guh-niz-uhm) *noun* — A living thing that is too small to be seen without a microscope.

mi-grate (**mye**-grate) *verb* — To move at a particular time of year from one region or climate to another.

mi-gra-tion (mye-**gray**-shun) *noun* — The act of organisms moving at a particular time of year from one region or climate to another.

mi-gra-tor-y (**mye**-gruh-tor-ee) *adjective* — Traveling from one place to another at regular times of the year, often over long distances.



noc-tur-nal (nok-tur-nuhl) *adjective* — An animal that is active at night.

non-liv-ing thing (non-liv-ing thing) *noun* — Something that is not alive and is not able to grow or reproduce to make more of itself.

nu-tri-ent (noo-tree-uhnt) *noun* — Something that is needed by organisms to stay healthy and alive.

nymph (nimf) *noun* — The young form of an insect, such as a grasshopper, that changes into an adult by repeatedly shedding its skin.

om-ni-vore (om-nuh-vor) *noun* — An animal that eats both plants and animals.

or-gan-ism (or-guh-niz-uhm) *noun* — An individual living thing, such as a plant, animal or fungus, that is able to grow and reproduce.

ox-bow (oks-boh) *noun* — A pond formed when a bend of a stream or river becomes cut off from the main channel.

poach-er (pohch-ur) *noun* — A person who hunts or fishes illegally.

pol-len (pol-uhn) *noun* — Tiny yellow grains produced by flowers.

pol-len bas-kets (pol-uhn bass-kitz) *noun* — Specialized structures on the hind legs of honey bees, bumblebees, stingless bees and orchid bees that store pollen packed into it by the bee.

pol-li-nate (pol-uh-nate) *verb* — To carry or transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to another flower where the female part can be fertilized to produce seeds.

pol-li-na-tor (pol-uh-na-tur) *noun* — Anything that carries or transfers pollen from one flower part to another.

pond (pond) *noun* — An enclosed body of fresh water.

pond e-co-sys-tem (pond ee-koh-siss-tuhm) *noun* — All the living and non-living things interacting in a pond environment.

pool (pool) *noun* — A small area of still water.

pop-u-la-tion (pop-yuh-lay-shuhn) *noun* — A group of the same organisms living together in the same place and at the same time.

prair-ie (prair-ee) *noun* — A large area of flat or rolling grassland with wildflowers but with few, if any, woody shrubs or trees.

prair-ie e-co-sys-tem (prair-ee ee-koh-siss-tuhm or ek-oh-siss-tuhm) *noun* — All the living and non-living things interacting in a prairie environment.

pred-a-tor (pred-uh-tur) *noun* — An animal that lives by hunting other animals for food.



prey (pray) — 1. *noun*: An animal that is hunted by another animal for food. 2. *verb*: When an animal hunts and eats another animal.

pro-duc-er (pruh-dooss-ur) *noun* — A plant that makes its own food using energy from the sun.

re-pro-duce (ree-pruh-dooss) *verb* — To produce another living thing of the same kind; to produce offspring.

rhi-zome (rye-zohm) *noun* — A plant stem that grows horizontally under or along the ground and often sends out roots and shoots. New plants develop from the shoots.

rif-fle (rif-uhl) *noun* — Bubbly sections of shallow streams that appear as white water where the streams flow over rocks. These bubbly sections add oxygen to the water.

ri-par-i-an zone (rye-pair-ee-uhn zohn) *noun* — A parallel section of trees, shrubs, grasses and other plants along streambanks.

sa-van-na (suh-van-uh) *noun* — Flat, grassy plain with few scattered trees.

scat (skat) *noun* — Animal waste; feces; droppings.

scav-en-ger (skav-uhn-jur) *noun* — An animal that lives on dead and decaying organisms.

soil (soyl) *noun* — Dirt or earth in which plants grow. Soil parts contain water, air, small bits of dead plants and animals and living things too small to see without a microscope.

spe-cial-ized struc-ture (spesh-uh-lizd struhk-chur) *noun* — Plant or animal part that helps an organism survive in its specific environment.

stream (stream) *noun* — A body of flowing water, especially a brook or a small river.

Stream Teams (stream teemz) *noun* — Groups of people who volunteer to adopt sections of Missouri rivers, streams and creeks to monitor the quality of the water and the organisms that live in it.

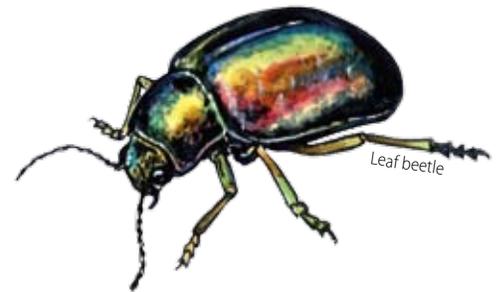
swim blad-der (swim blad-ur) *noun* — An air-filled sac in many fish that helps maintain buoyancy and keeps fish from sinking to the bottom of the water.

ul-tra-son-ic (uhl-truh-son-ik) *adjective* — Describes sound vibrations and frequencies too high for the human ear to hear.

un-der-sto-ry (uhn-dur-stor-ee) *noun* — The middle layer of a forest consisting of smaller trees, seedlings of the canopy's trees, shrubs and vines that have adapted to the canopy's shade.

veg-e-tar-i-an (vej-uh-ter-ee-uhn) *noun* — A person who eats only plants and vegetables.

ven-om (ven-uhm) *noun* — Poison produced by some snakes and spiders and usually passed into a victim's body through a bite or sting.

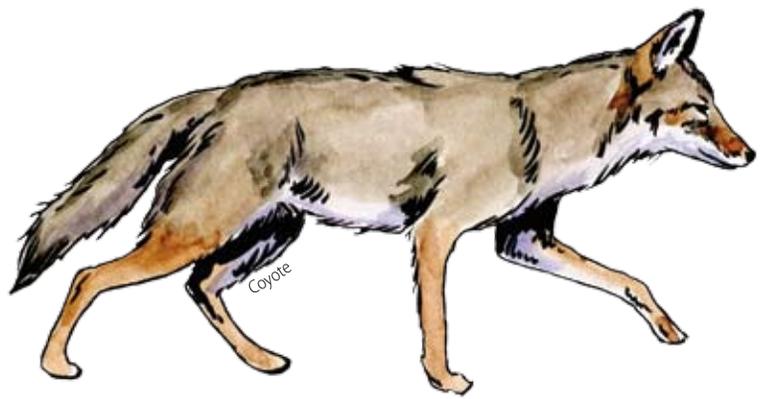


wa-ter-fowl (**waw**-tur-foul) *noun* — 1. A bird that is found in or near water 2. *plural*: birds with webbed feet of the family including ducks, geese and swans; especially wild ducks and geese hunted as game.

wa-ter-shed (**waw**-tur-shed) *noun* — Region or land area that drains into a river or lake.

wet-land (**wet**-land or **wet**-luhnd) *noun* — Land that has much moisture in it and that stays wet for at least part of the year such as swamps, bogs, marshes and fens.







Eastern garter snake

