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September 30 – October 4th, 2013

Vocabulary:

* **Ecology** – the study of how living and nonliving things interact.
* **Succession** – the process by which new plant and animal populations replace old plant and animal populations over time.
* **Pollution** – the adding of harmful substances to the water, air, or land.
* **Reforestation** – the process of restoring areas of forest that once existed but were removed or destroyed.
* **Conservation** – the wise management and use of natural resources.
* **Recycle** – to use something that would be waste to create a new product.

Consider…

* How would succession work with extinction/endangered species?
* What are some positive human effects? Negative?
* How are each of these vocabulary words related to each other?



October 7-11th, 2013

* A **biome** is a group of ecosystems with similar climates and communities. *Remember*: a **community** is all the living things in a particular area/ecosystem.
  + COOLER Biomes
    - **Tundra** – treeless biome in arctic regions
    - **Taiga** – cool forest biome of conifers in upper Northern Hemisphere
    - **Deciduous** **Forest**- has many kinds of trees that lose their leaves each autumn.
  + WARMER Biomes
    - **Grassland** – grasses, not trees, are the main plant life
    - **Desert** – a sandy or rocky biome with little precipitation and little plant life
    - **Tropical** **Rainforest** – a hot biome near the equator that has much rainfall and a wide variety of life

Consider…

* What is the difference between a biome and an ecosystem?
* What makes each biome different from the others?
* What parts of the world are these biomes located?
* In which biome do we live?