




AQUATIC ECOLOGY I

Prof. Dr. Nilsun DEMİR

Ankara

Ecology

- Ecology is the science of interactions among organisms and their environment.
- It is an interdisciplinary field that includes biology, limnology, oceanography and Earth sciences ext.

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- A wide, calm body of water, likely a river or lake, occupies the foreground and middle ground. The water is a muted greenish-blue color. In the background, a town or city is visible, with various buildings and structures. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.
- Ecology includes interactions of organisms have with each other, other organisms, and with abiotic components of the environment.

- Ecosystems are composed of dynamically interacting parts including organisms, the communities they make up, and the non-living components of their environment such as light, water movements, temperature, exct.

- An **ecosystem** is a community of living organisms and their physical and chemical environment, linked by flows of energy and nutrients.

- Ecosystems function as a discrete ecological unit, and can be defined at a variety of scales.
- For example, the Mogan lake basin can be considered an ecosystem, as can a small dam lake, a forest, or the entire planet.

Ecosystem processes

- Primary production
- Nutrient cycling
- Secondary production
- Niche construction activities

