

Biotic and Abiotic Factors

- **Biotic factors:** Parts of an ecosystem that are living or used to be living

- **Abiotic factors:** Parts of an ecosystem that have never been living

"opposite"



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Learn Biology: Ecosystem Definition & Biotic Factors vs. Abiotic Factors

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-wpbhnom70>



RECAP

- Name and describe the **ecological levels** from smallest to largest.
- Use and define the following terms: **geographic, climate, abiotic, biotic**

Individual: biotic

Population: same type, 1 **species** in a **geographic area**), **biotic**

Community: all the **populations** in a **geographic area**, **biotic**

Ecosystem: **community** and the physical (**abiotic**) environment, example – African Savannah

Community: all the **populations** in a **geographic area**, **biotic**

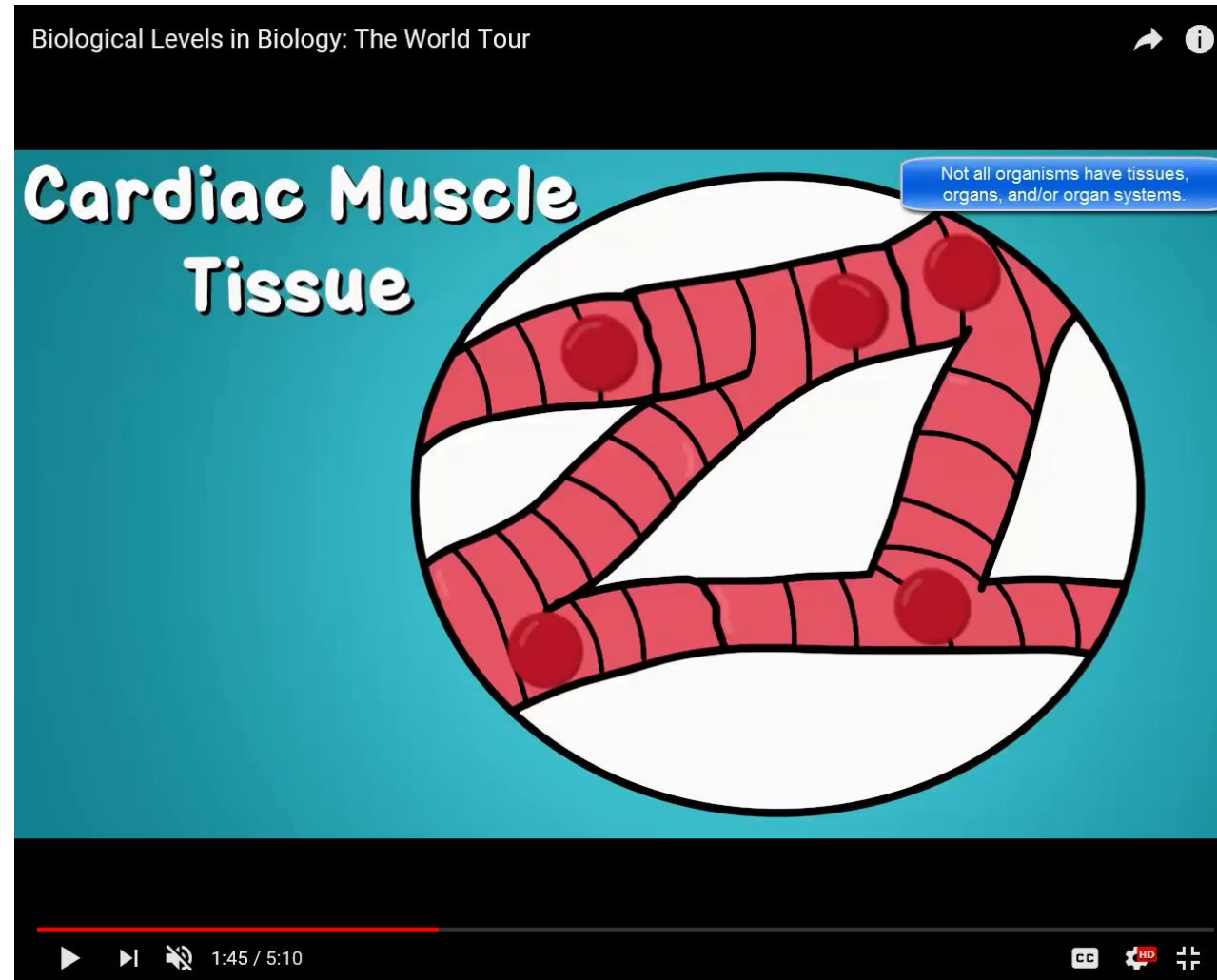
Ecosystem: **community (biotic)** and the physical **(abiotic)** environment, example – African Savannah

Biome: general type of environment made up of **ecosystems**, example – grasslands

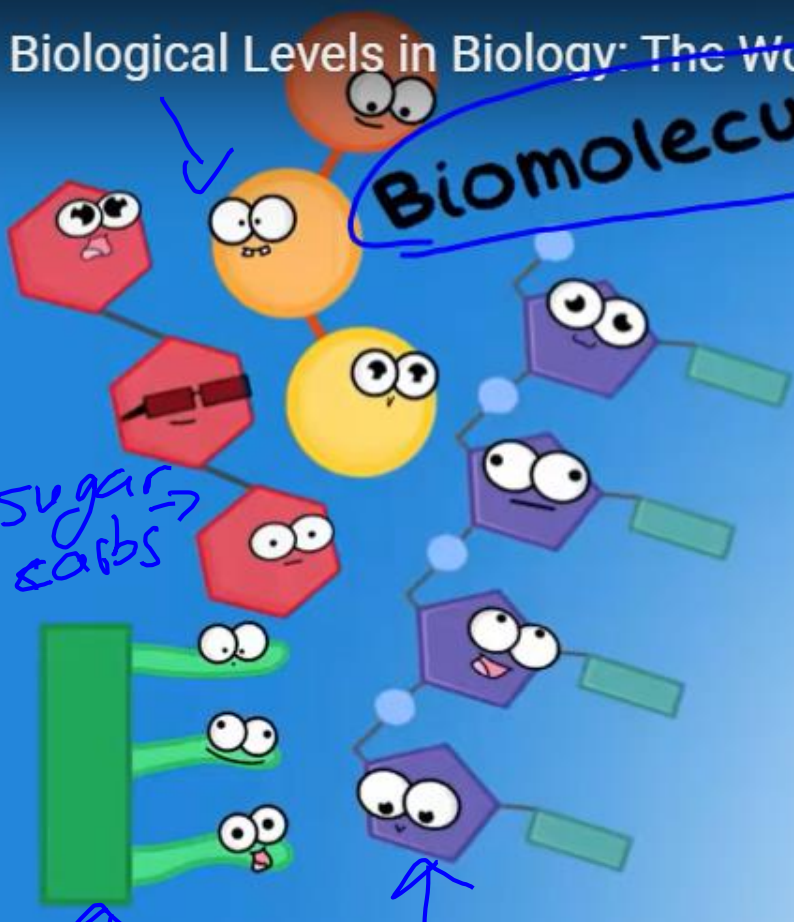
Biosphere: all the **biomes** on the earth

Amoeba Sisters Video: Biological Levels in Biology: The World Tour

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EtWknf1gzKo>



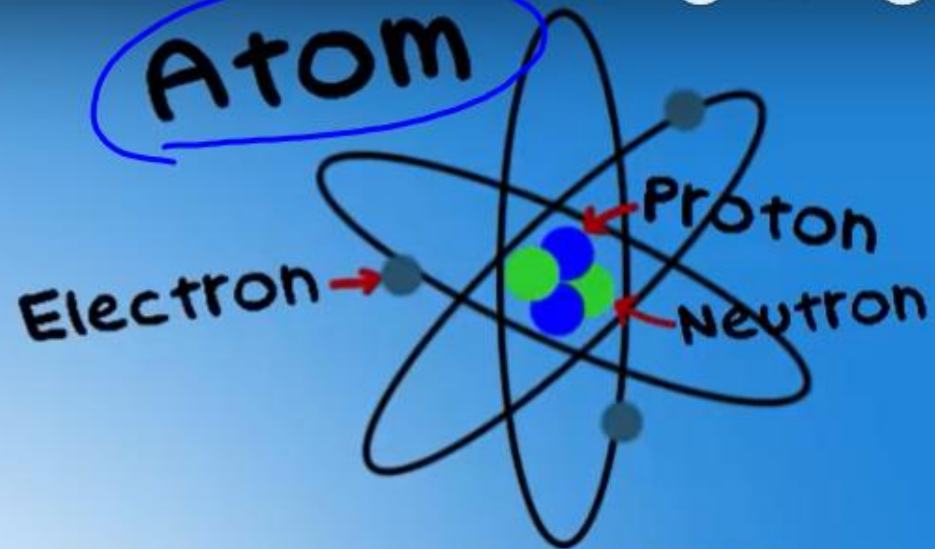
Biomolecules



sugar
→
carbs

fats (lipids)
nucleic
acid

Atom



organelles



Nucleus

Mitochondrion

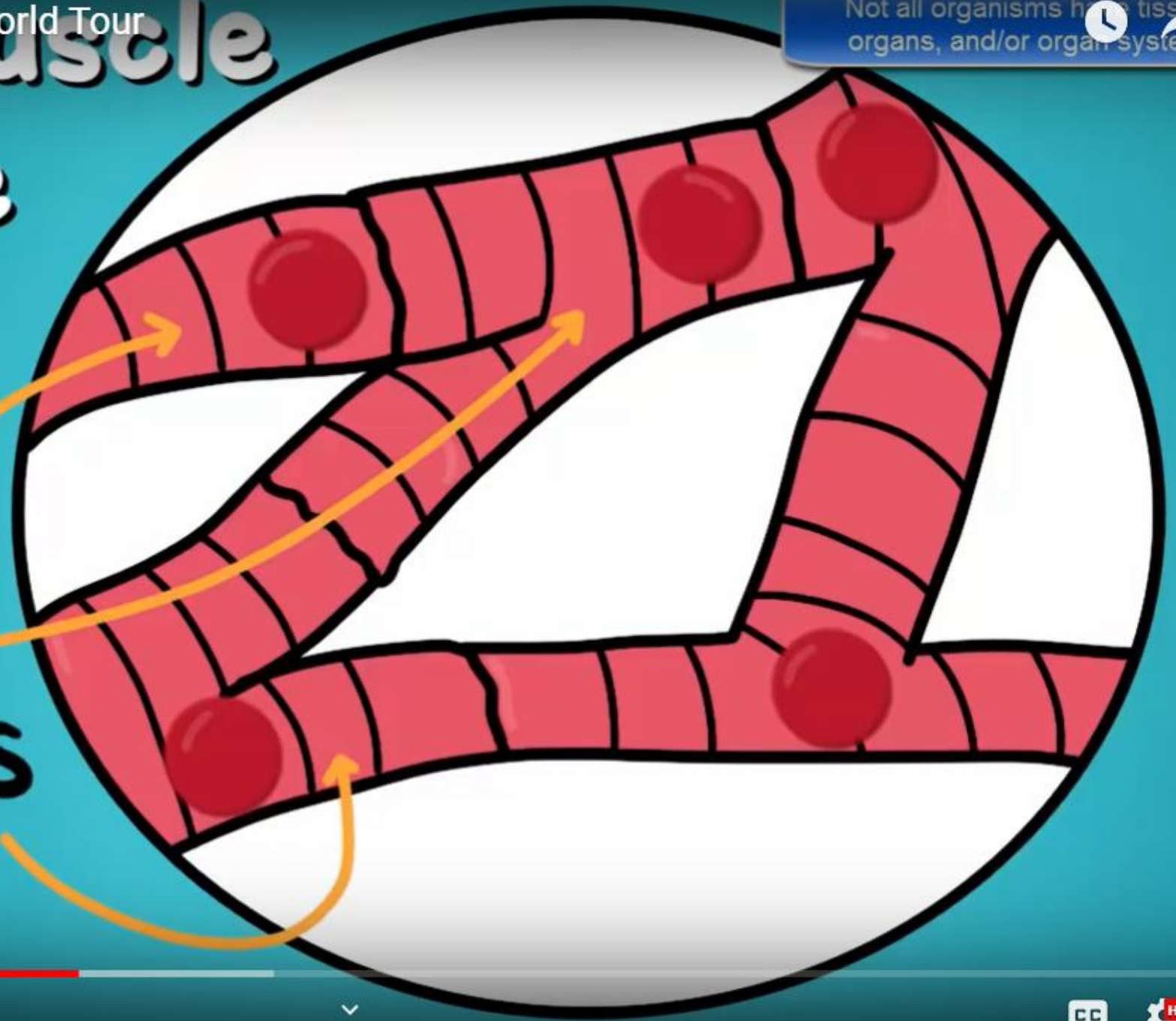
Biological Levels in Biology: The World Tour

Cardiac Muscle

Tissue

Cells

Not all organisms have tissues, organs, and/or organ systems.



1:49 / 5:10



Community



Temperature



Rocks

Desert



Rainforest



4:02 / 5:10



(Biological Levels – Amoeba Sisters)

Biological Levels: Amoeba Sisters Video Clip

Name: _____

Period: _____ Date: _____

1. Biological levels are **analyzed**. Explain the meaning of analyzed: _____

_____.

2. Biological Levels → 1st _____ (_____ ,

_____ , _____)

→ 2nd _____ (example would be the _____)

→ 3rd _____ (example would be _____)

→ 4th _____ (such as the _____)

→ 5th _____ → 6th _____

→ 7th _____ → 8th _____

→ 9th _____ → 10th _____

3. Communities are composed of biotic factors and are affected by abiotic factors.

4. Temperature, rocks, and _____ are abiotic factors.

abiotic parts:

water → all need it for survival

examples of adaptations →

behavior
or
physical
trait
that
enables
something
to survive
in its
environ-
ment.

Sonoran
Desert
(A2)

deserts → cacti → thick cuticle
small leaved plants → reduced water loss
wildflower blooms → after late winter rain

nocturnal animals
↓
most active @ night

diurnal animals
→ nest during the hottest times

transpiration

greatest
biodiversity → variety of life

Meerkat Video

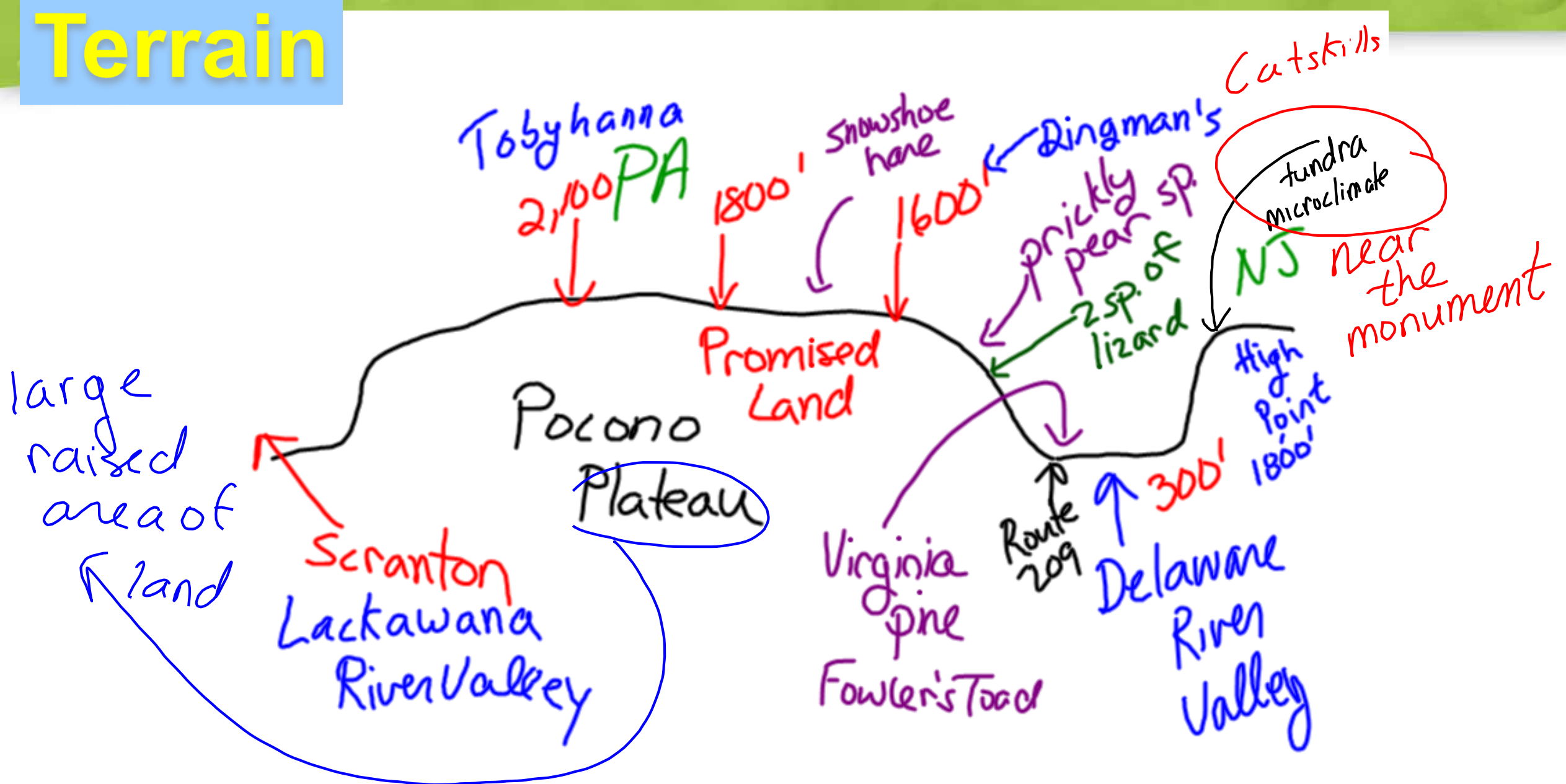
Scorpions: eaten by meerkats

1. Hard **exoskeleton**: outer “shell” made of chitin (protein – known in biology as a macromolecule) that gives them structure and protection (the function)
2. **Exoskeleton**: prevents **desiccation** (loss of water)

Meerkat Adaptations

1. long claws → digging
2. close ears when digging
3. don't drink water → water needs from food.
4. dark markings around eyes → reduces glare
5. darker underneath → used to absorb heat on cool mornings.
↓
most animals are lighter underneath

Terrain



Fowler's Toad

1. **Specialist:** unique or specific habitat needs
2. **Habitat requirement(s):** sandy soil
3. **Where found:** river floodplains



Virginia Pine

1. Habitat requirement(s):
sandy soils,
indicator species
2. Where found:
river floodplains



Prickly Pear Cacti

1. Habitat

requirement(s):
lots of sun, dry,
warm, well-
drained soil

2. Where found:

south facing steep
slopes (cliff sides)



Five Lined Skink and Northern Fence Lizard

1. Reptiles: scales (folds in skin)
2. Legs: horizontal, extend sideways
3. **Habitat** requirements: lots of sun, dry, warm, well-drained soil
4. Where found: south facing steep slopes (cliff sides) - ectotherms



Snowshoe Hare

1. Habitat requirement(s):
preferred plant foods,
higher terrain/elevation
2. Where found: top of
plateau



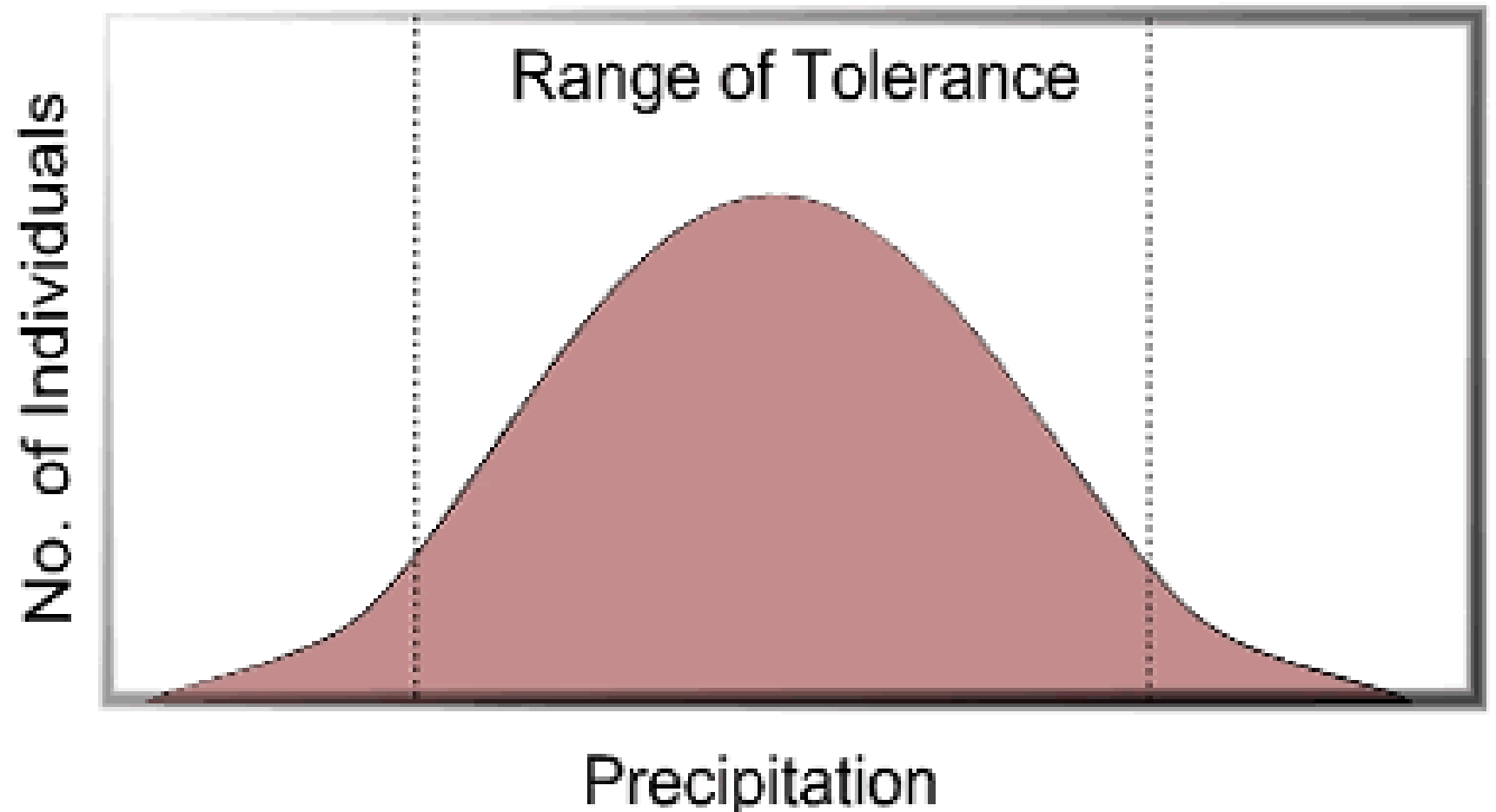
Habitat

- specific environment in which an organism lives
- provides an organism with **resources**—anything an organism needs to survive and reproduce - including food, shelter, and mates.



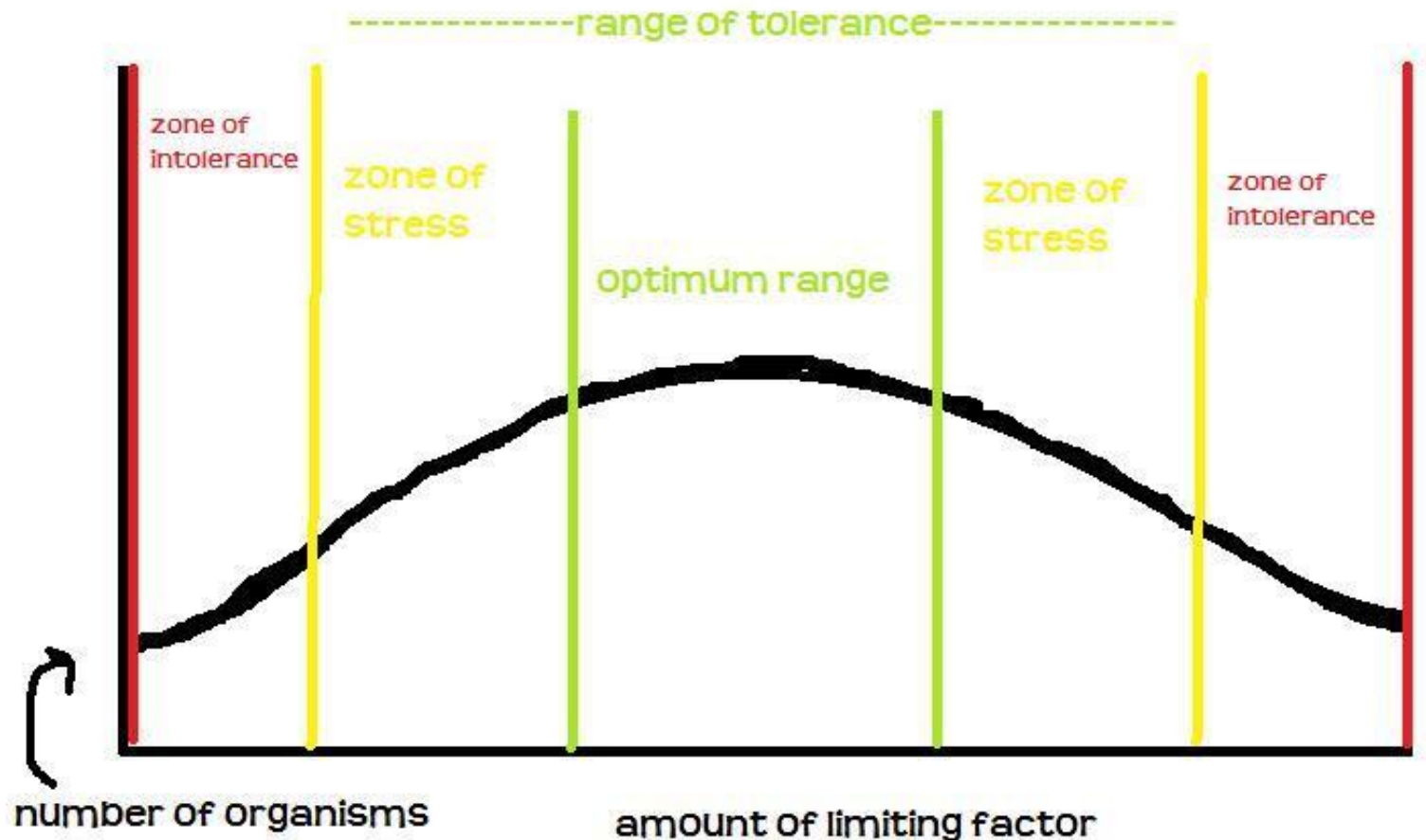
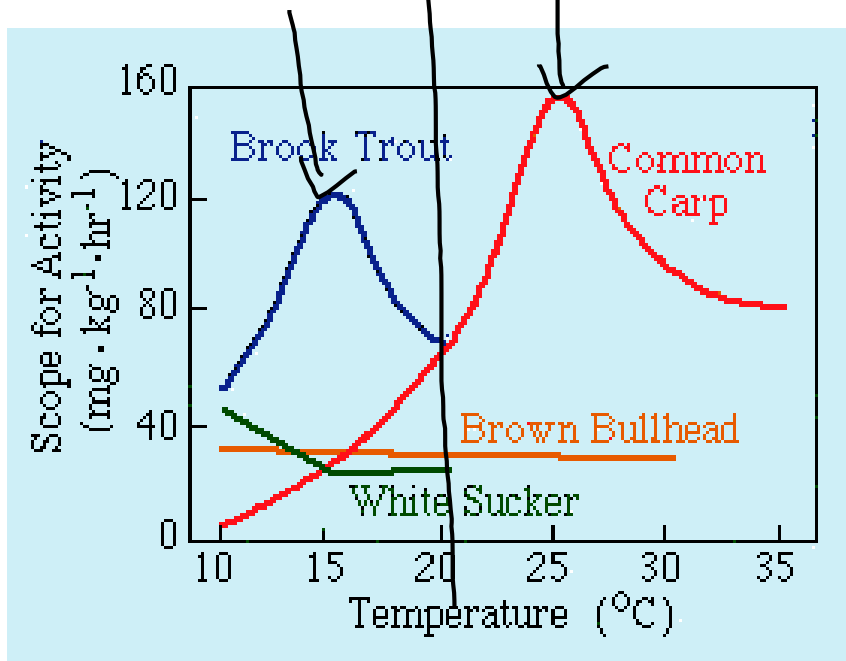
Tolerance

limits and conditions within which an organism can exist



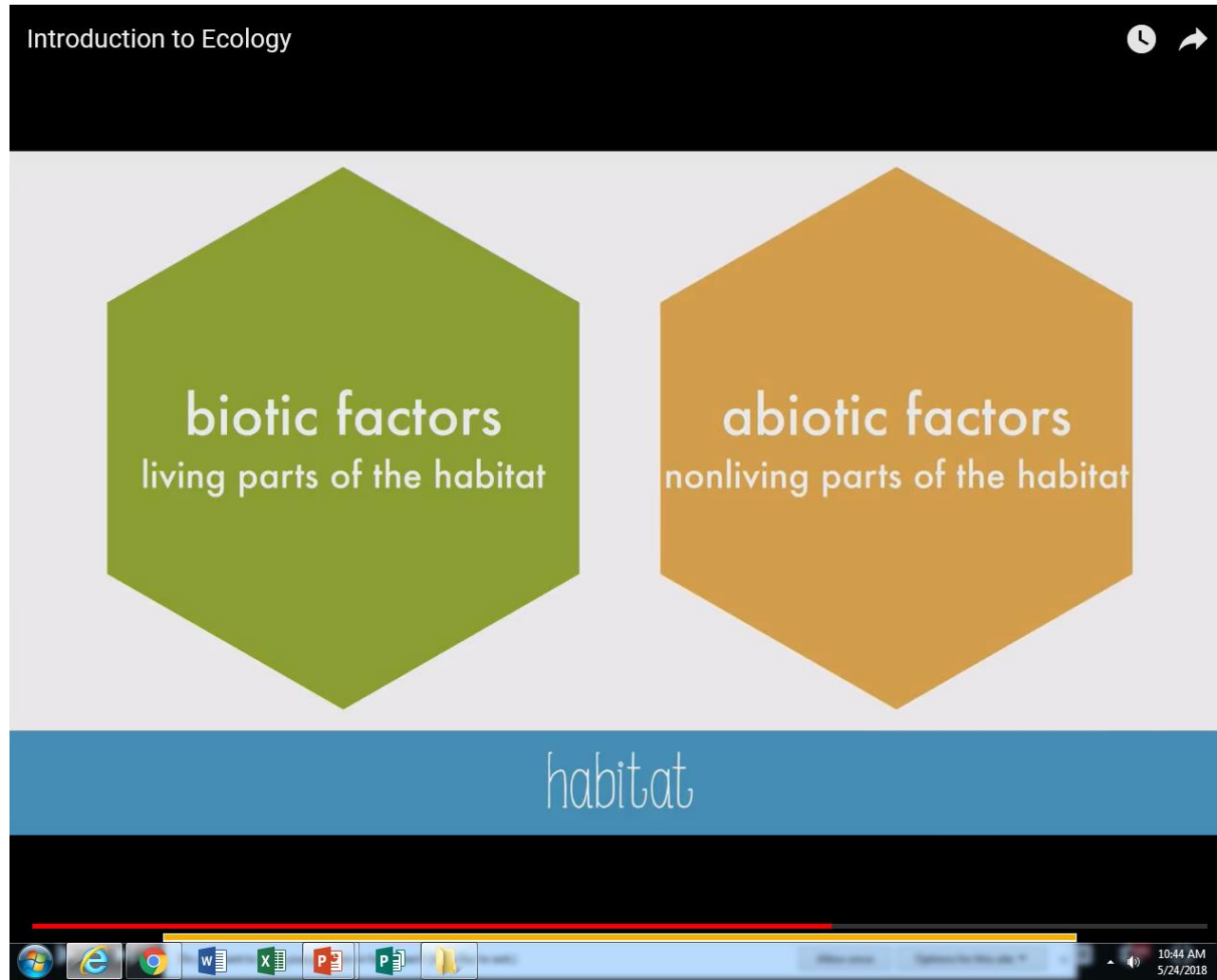
Tolerance

- limits and conditions within which an organism can exist



Video: Teachers Pet – Ecological Levels/Ecological Factors, Habitats/Niches...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GlnFylwdYH4&t=10s>



Video Recap: Teachers Pet – Ecological Levels/Ecological Factors, Habitats/Niches...

1. What is **ecology**?
2. Name 5 levels of ecological organization – from largest to smallest.
3. Explain the difference between the terms **ecosystem** and **community**.
4. Explain the difference between the terms **community** and a **population**.
5. Define the meaning of **biotic** and **abiotic**.
6. Explain the meaning of **habitat** and **niche**.
7. What is the difference between a **generalist** and **specialist**?

Video Recap: Teachers Pet – Ecological Levels/Ecological Factors, Habitats/Niches...

1. **Ecology:** study of how organisms interact
2. 5 levels of ecological organization: biosphere, ecosystems, community, population, organism
3. Difference between the terms **ecosystem** and **community**:
community → All the living parts all the abiotic factors and biotic factors
4. Difference between the terms **community** and a **population**:
all the biotic parts ↓ single species.

Video Recap: Teachers Pet – Ecological Levels/Ecological Factors, Habitats/Niches...

5. **biotic:** living **abiotic:** non-living
6. **habitat:** specific place → basic needs
- niche:** role/job, how something survives

7. Difference between a **generalist** and **specialist**:

↳ like a black bear

very adaptable

to a lot of
environments/
conditions.

↳ like a koala bear

very specific
needs,
narrow range
of tolerance



broad



← community
↳ all the
species / populations

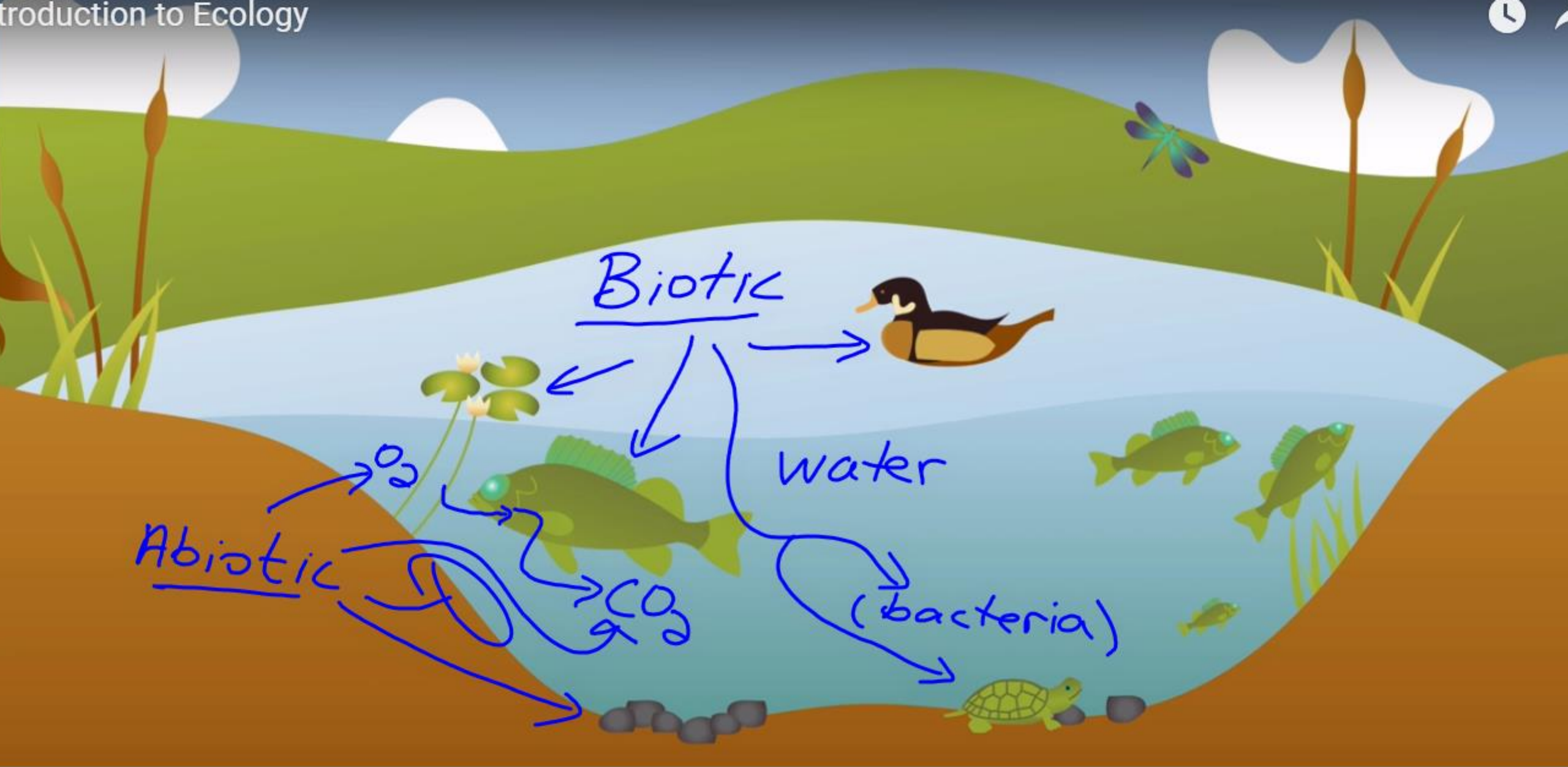


← population - 1 species

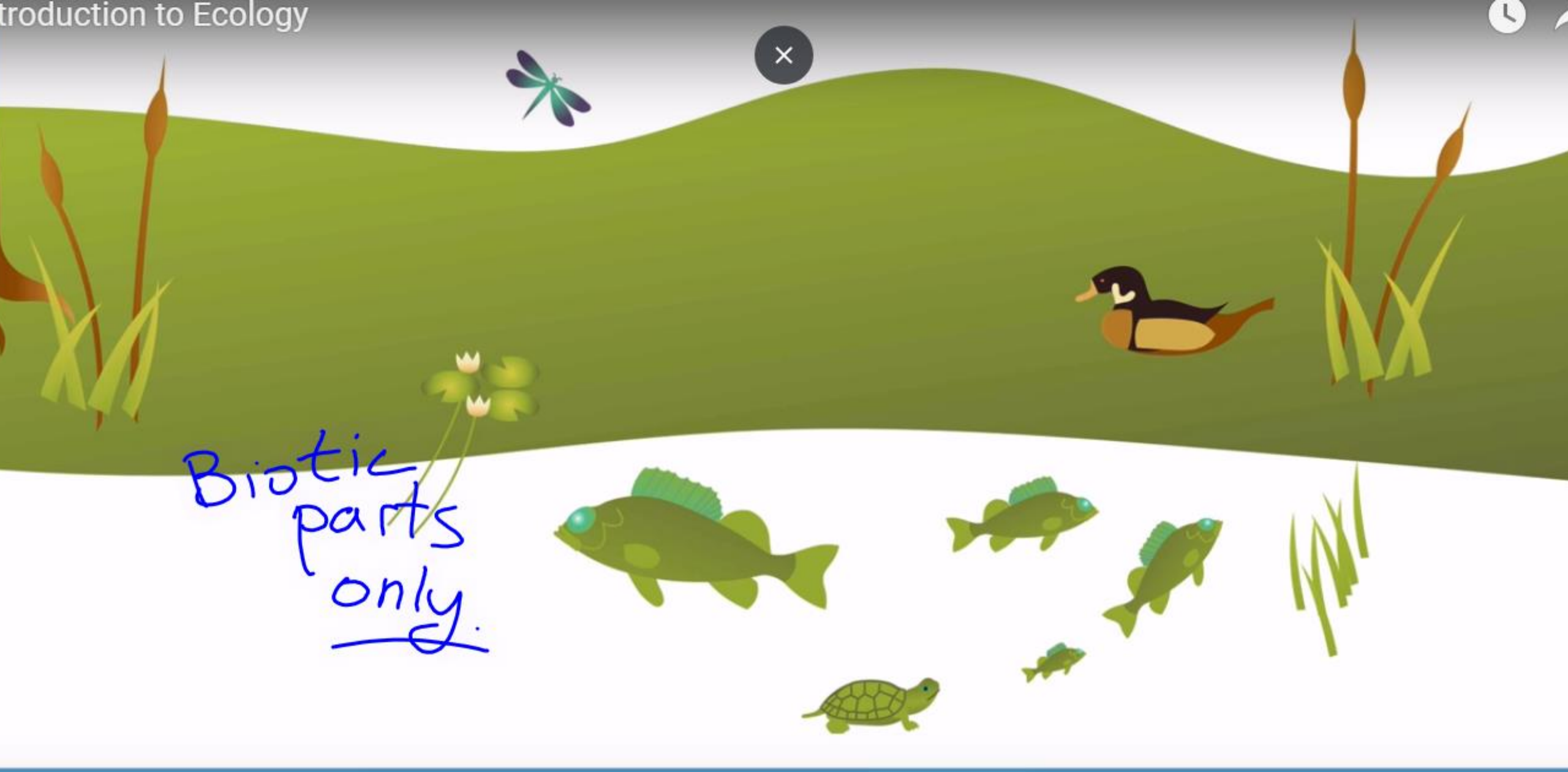


narrow

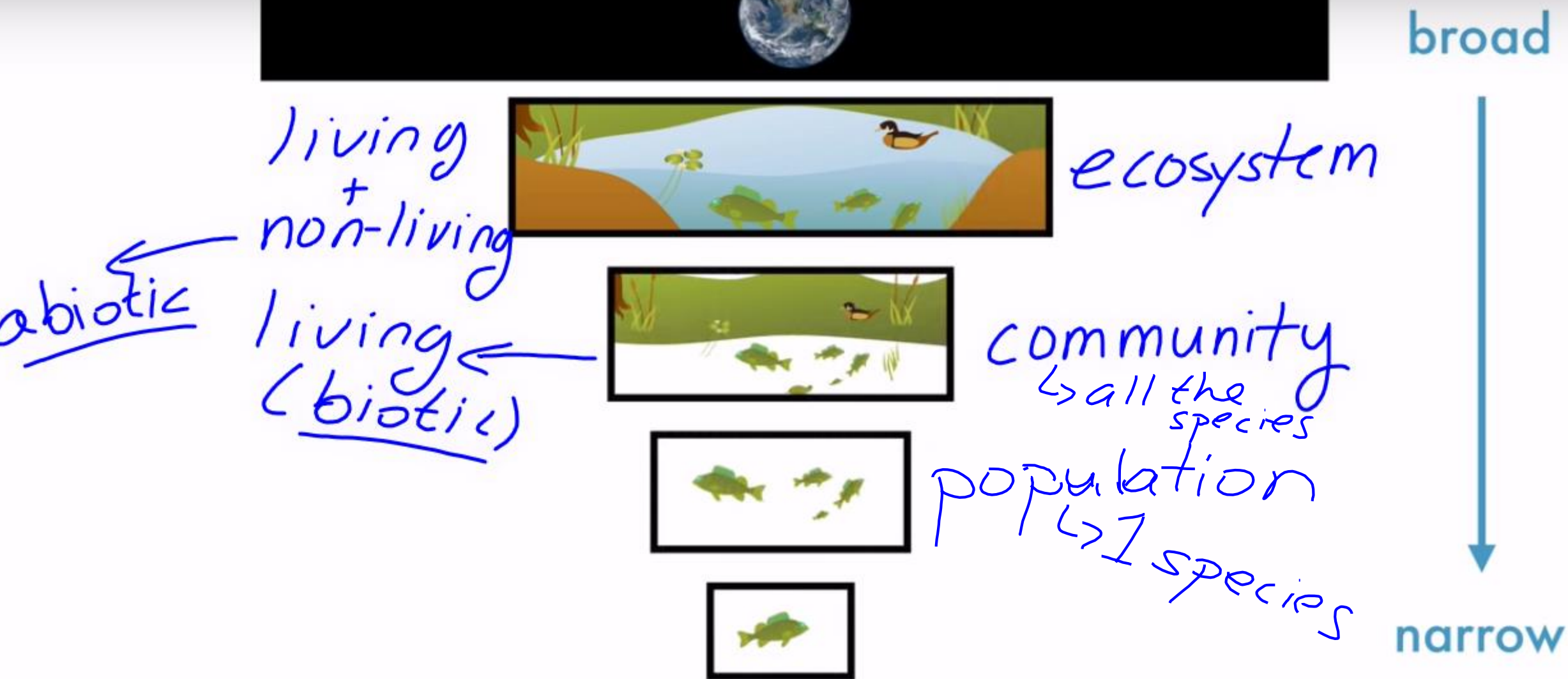
levels of organization



ecosystem



Biotic
parts
only.



levels of organization