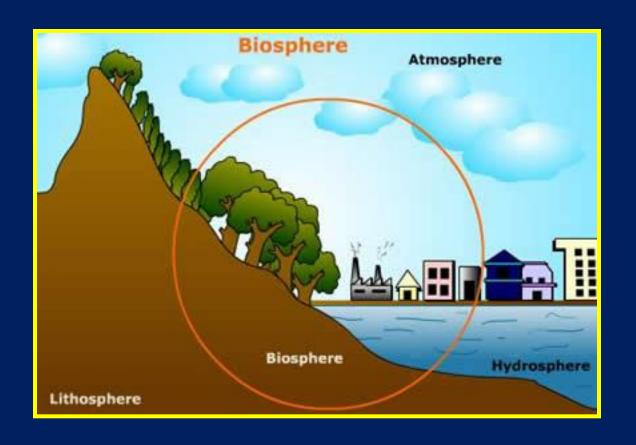
# Ecosystems



Essential Standard 2.1
Analyze the interdependence of living organisms within their environments.

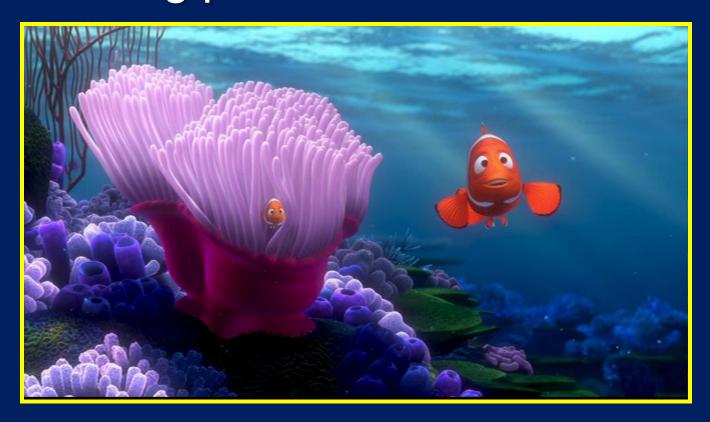
#### Biosphere

On Earth, all living things live within the Biosphere, which includes parts of the atmosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere that are able to support life.



# Ecology

Ecology is the study of interactions among living things with the living and non-living parts of their environment.



#### Abiotic and Biotic Factors

The non-living parts of an organism's environment are called abiotic factors.





The living parts of an organism's environment are called biotic factors.

#### **Abiotic Determines Biotic Factors**

Abiotic factors determine what biotic factors, or living things, can survive in a particular environment.



Clear, warm water that allows sunlight to penetrate.

## Ecosystem

All biotic and abiotic factors, in any particular environment, make up an ecosystem.



Coral Reef Ecosystem

# Community

Within an ecosystem, the biotic factors, which would include all of the different species, make up a community.



## Population

Within the community, one individual species makes up what is called a population.



Clownfish

# Organism

Within a population, one individual, that has all the characteristics of life, is called an organism.



Nemo

# Levels of Organization

#### Ecosystem

Living and Non-living factors



Just the Living factors

**Population** 

Just one species

Organism

Just one individual



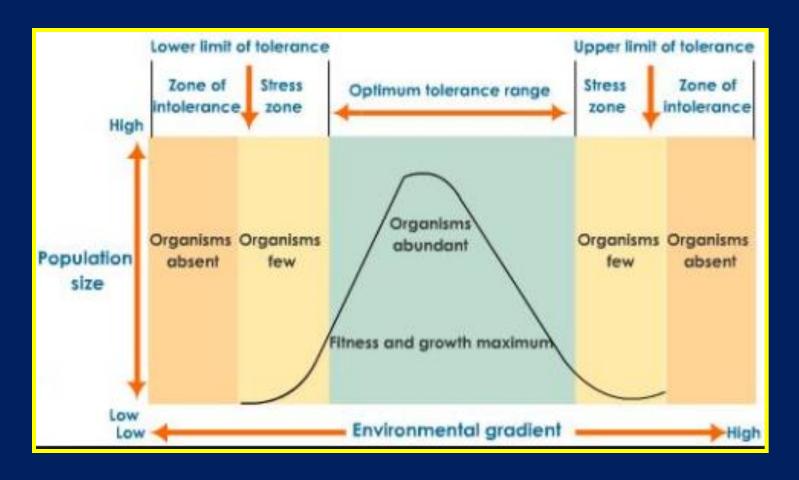






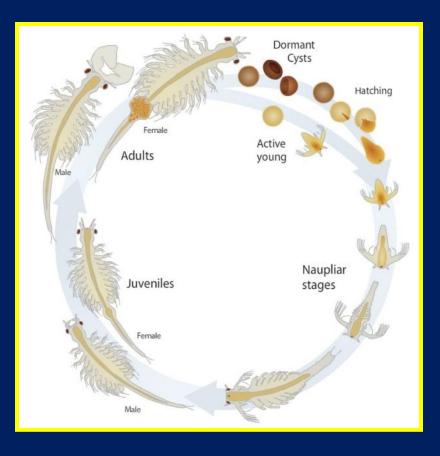
#### Tolerance

Every species has its own range of tolerance in which it can survive and reproduce



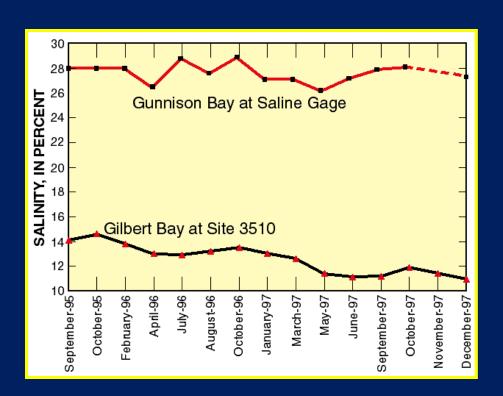
#### Habitat

A species tolerance levels help determine its habitat or where an organism lives

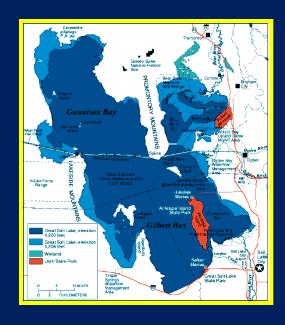


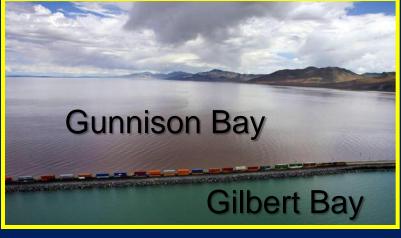


# Salinity Range

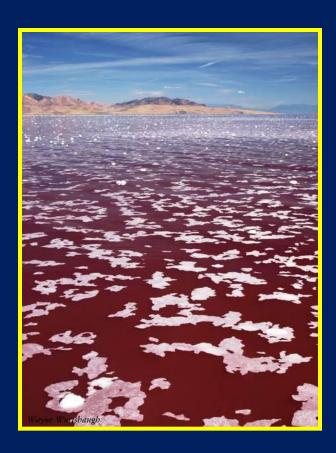


Average Ocean Salinity 3.5%

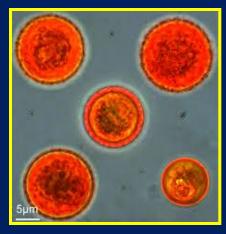




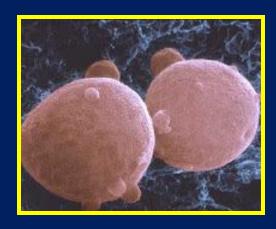
# **Biotic Factors**



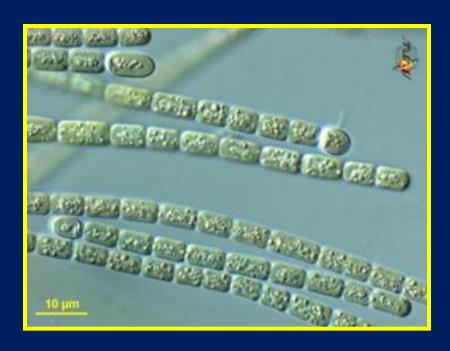
**Gunnison Bay** 



Dunaliella Salina



Halobacterium salinarum



Cyanobacteria



**Producers** 

Free-Floating Phytoplankton

Dunaliella veridis

Brine Flies

Ephydra cinerea

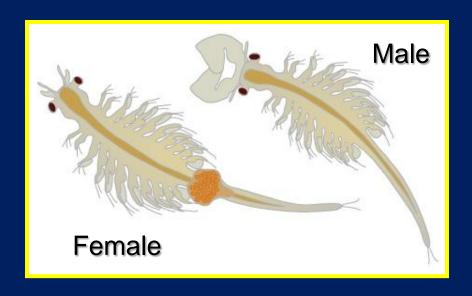
**Primary Consumers** 







Brine Shrimp *Artemia franciscana* 





**Primary Consumers** 



**Avocet** 



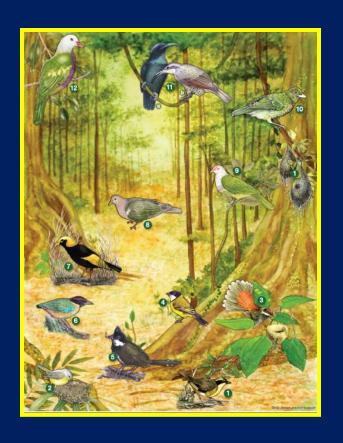


Gull

Secondary Consumers

#### Niche

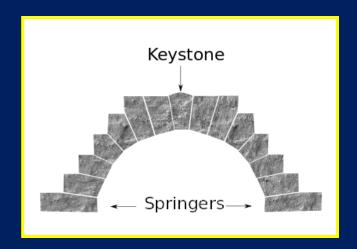
Each species has its own niche, within an ecosystem, or a way to meets its need for food, shelter, survival, and reproduction.



The more unique a species niche is, the less competition it faces within a community.

# Keystone Species

Some species, called keystone species, play a critical role in maintaining the health of an ecosystem.









# The End

