

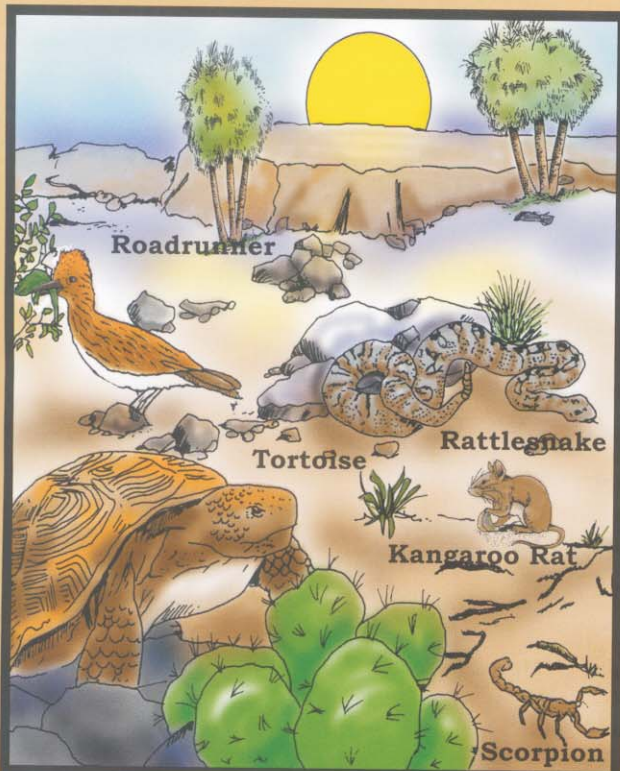
Ecosystems

Everything on Earth is part of an ecosystem. Look under a fallen tree and you will see a variety of things thriving underneath. But what exactly is an ecosystem? The term describes an ecological system, a community of abiotic and biotic things thriving within that community. Abiotic means nonliving things such as air, water and rocks. Biotic means living things such as plants and animals. So how could a fallen tree be an ecosystem? Granted, it is small, but underneath that tree are bugs, grass, the bark of the tree and maybe a few reptiles. All of those things interact and depend on each other to survive. Because everything on the Earth is part of an ecosystem we couldn't possibly talk about every single one. Shown here are the seven major ecosystems and examples of the abiotic and biotic organisms that are found in each one. On the back of each card you will find information about each ecosystem. Please use these cards as a reference tool throughout the program.

Deciduous Woodlands



Desert



Tropical Rainforest

