

## Irvine Regional Park Vocabulary



**Adaptation** A behavior or characteristic that helps a plant or animal survive in the environment

**Camouflage** Any color, shape, or pattern adaptation that helps an animal to blend in with its

surroundings

**Carnivore** An animal that eats only animals

**Coastal sage scrub** An ecosystem of short, drought adapted soft leafed shrubs, in which California

sagebrush is the most common species

**Ecosystem** All the living and nonliving things that interact in a particular area

**Erosion** The process by which rock material is broken down and carried away by natural

forces such as wind and water

**Geology** The study of Earth including its structure, rocks, minerals, history and the forces

which affect it over time

**Herbivore** An animal that eats only plants

**Insectivore** An animal that eats only insects

**Native** Existing or growing naturally in a region or country

**Nectarivore** An animal that eats only nectar

**Observation** A description of objects and events based on the senses

**Omnivore** An animal that eats both animals and plants

**Predator** An animal that hunts and eats other animals

**Prey** An animal that is hunted and eaten by other animals

**Riparian** An ecosystem located along a stream or river

**Scat** Animal droppings