



Modjeska Canyon Vocabulary



Abiotic	Nonliving
Adaptation	A behavior or characteristic that helps a plant or animal survive in the environment
Biotic	Living
Chaparral	An ecosystem that has short, thick shrubs which are adapted to live in areas of very little water
Classification	The grouping of things based on certain characteristics
Consumer	A living thing that gets energy by eating other living things
Decomposer	A living thing that breaks down wastes and dead organisms
Ecosystem	All the biotic and abiotic things that interact in a particular area
Energy pyramid	A diagram showing the total amount of energy (food) available at each level of a food chain
Erosion	The wearing away of soil and rock by wind, water, temperature change, or gravity
Food chain	A series of events in which one organism eats another
Hypothesis	A guess that can be tested by experimentation about what will happen based on what you know, observe, and experience
Interdependence	The reliance of two or more living things upon one another for survival
O.H.E.C.K.	Observation, Hypothesis, Experimentation, Conclusion, Knowledge
Observation	A description of objects and events based on the senses
Photosynthesis	The process by which organisms make their own food using sunlight
Producer	A living thing that makes its own food
Riparian	An ecosystem located along a stream or river
Transpiration	The process by which plants release water vapor through their leaves
Watershed	All the area drained by a river system