

What is an ecosystem?

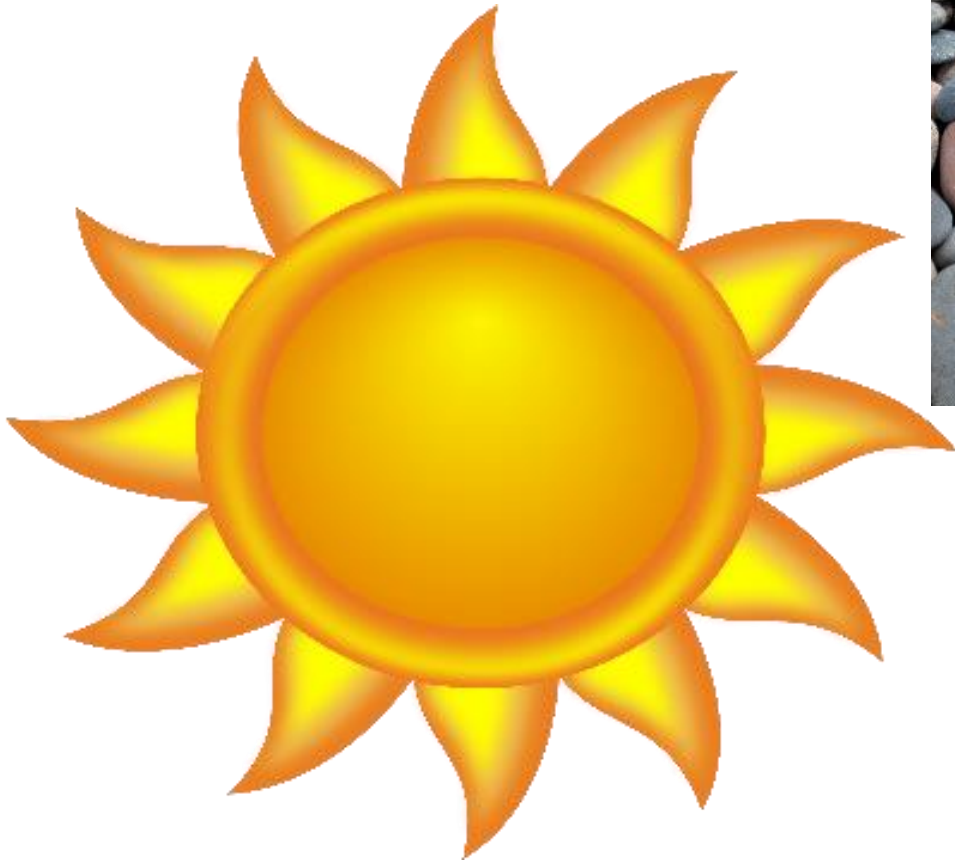
It is a community of organisms living together along with the nonliving parts of the environment.

Living Parts of an ecosystem:
These are called **biotic factors**



Nonliving parts of an ecosystem: These are called **abiotic factors**

- Rocks, dirt, mud, water, sun, air, sand... the list goes on and on!



Turn and Talk...

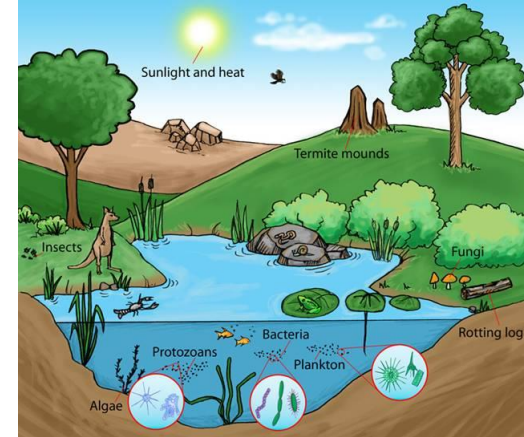


- Partner #1 Tell your partner what a biotic factor means.
- Partner #2.... Tell your partner examples of biotic factors.

- Partner #2...Tell your partner what abiotic factors mean.
- Partner #1....Tell your partner examples of abiotic factors.

Ecosystems Examples:

- A crack in the sidewalk
- Mold growing in your lunchbox
- A tropical rainforest
- OUR classroom
- Our Salmon Aquarium



Population

- A group of individuals that belong to the same species and live in the same area



Community

- A group of populations that interact with each other in a particular area



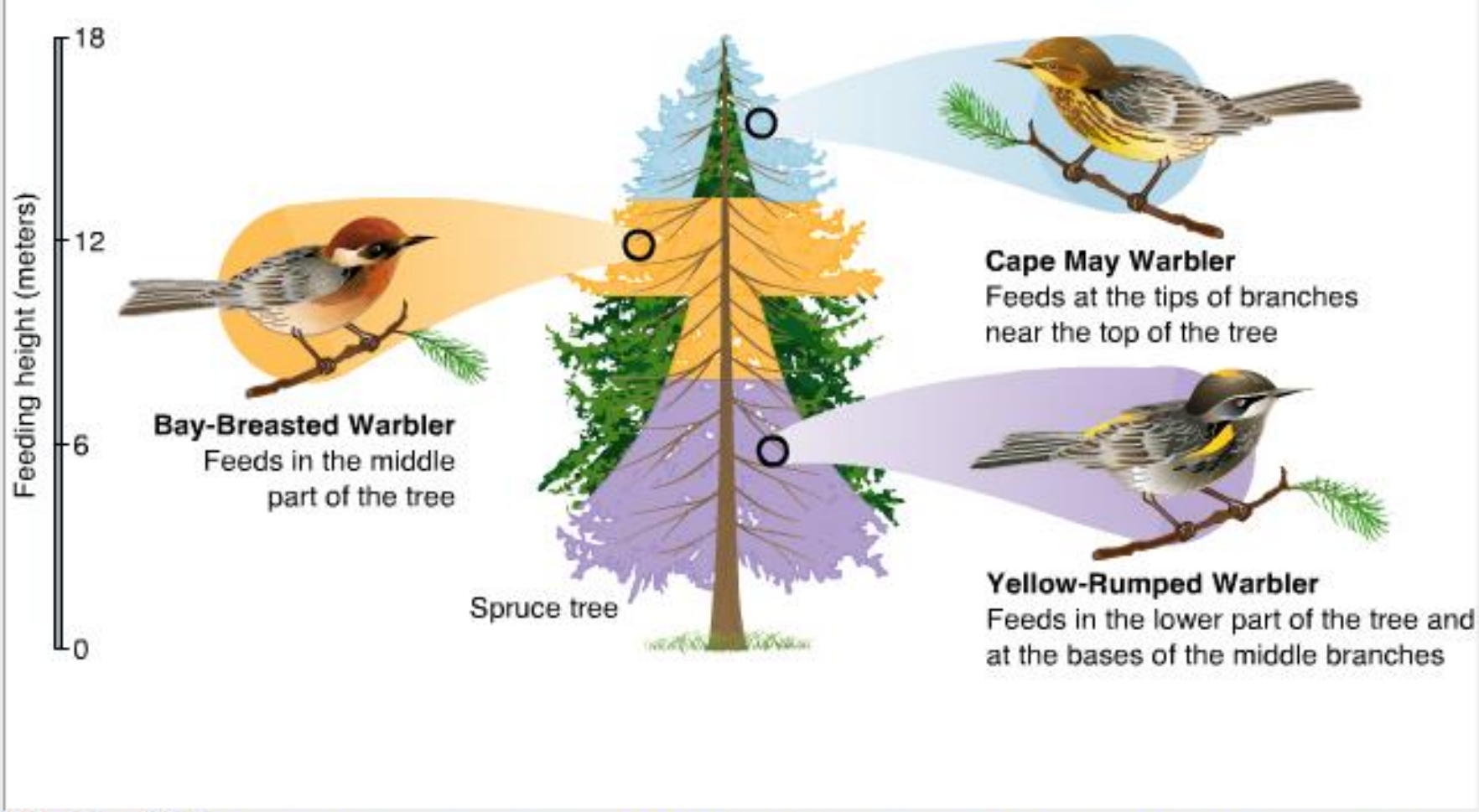
Turn and Talk..

*Partner #1... Explain how communities and populations are different from each other

*Partner #2... Explain how communities and populations are similar to each other



Niche: the job (role) of an organism in a certain habitat



Warbler Niches Each of these warbler species has a different niche in its spruce tree habitat. By feeding in different areas of the tree, the birds avoid competing with one another for food. **Inferring** What would happen if two of the warbler species attempted to occupy the same niche?