

Ecology



Chapter 3

Chapter 3.1: What is Ecology?

Ecology: the scientific study of interactions among organisms and between organisms and their environment.

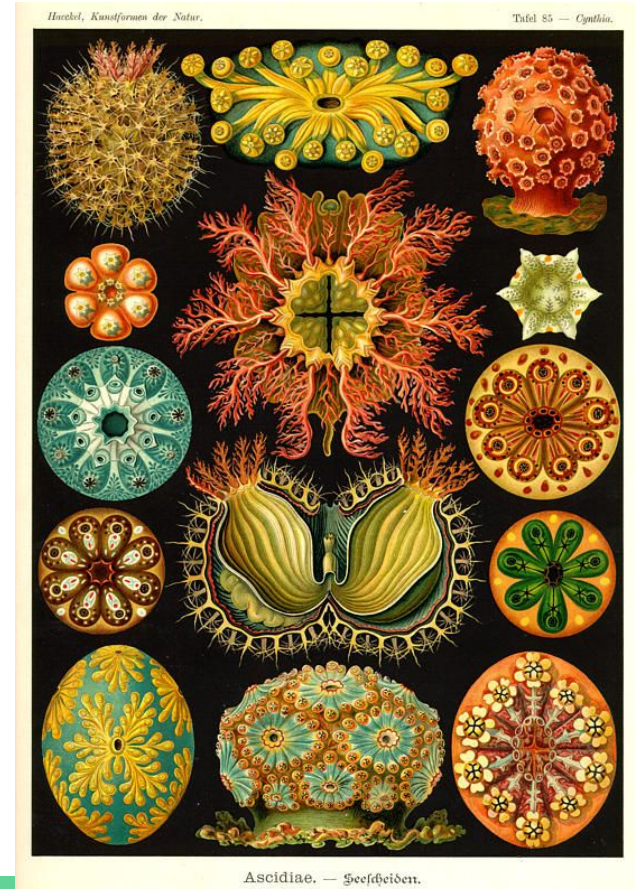
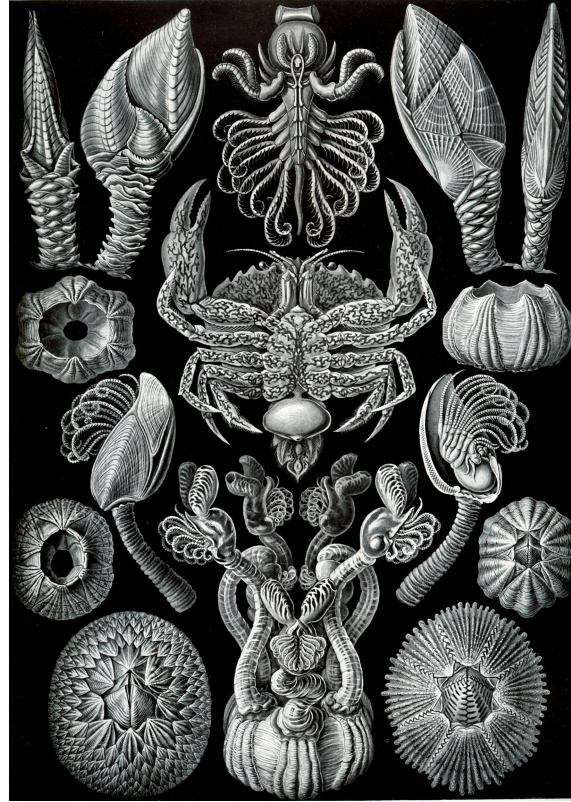
- **Biotic**: all living organisms
- **Abiotic**: all non-living aspects of the environment



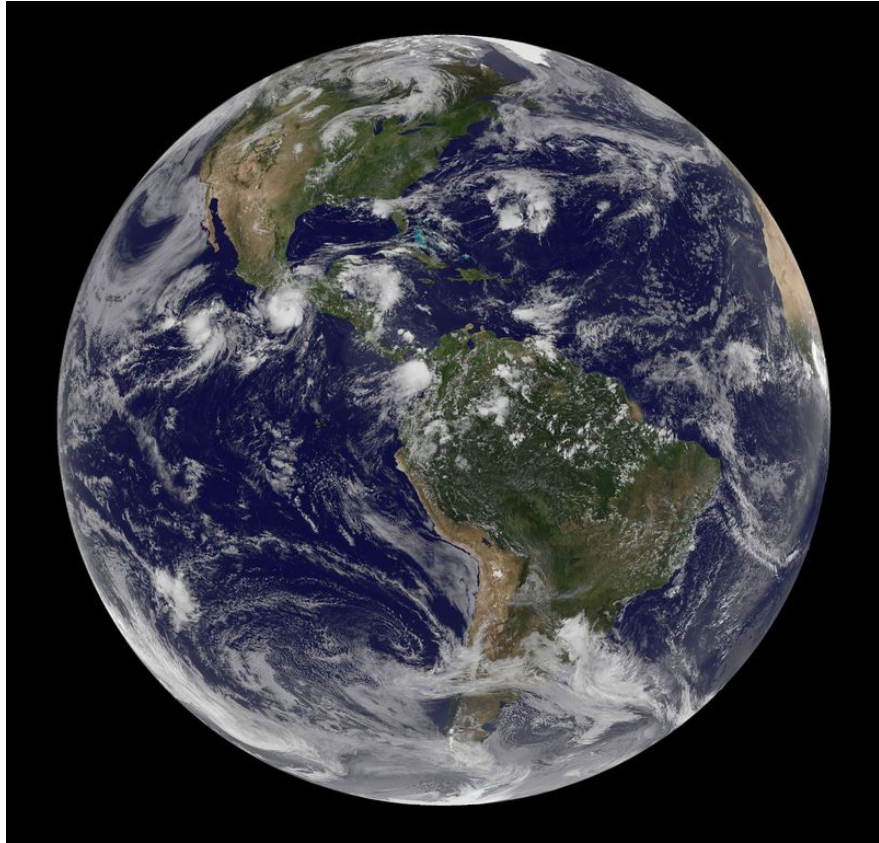
Ernst Haeckel
coined the term in
1866



Ecology “oikos”= house
All species are members of the “living house”



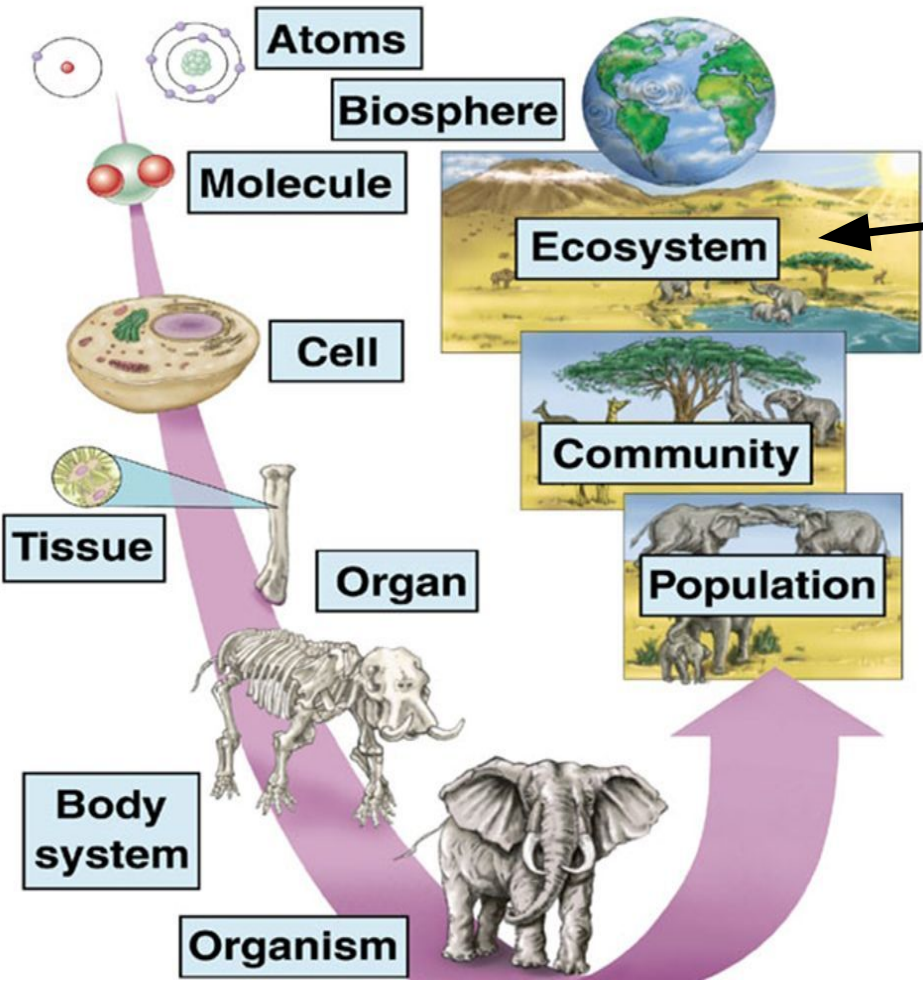
Biosphere: all the portions of the planet in which life exists



Interactions between organisms and their environment creates webs of interdependence between them

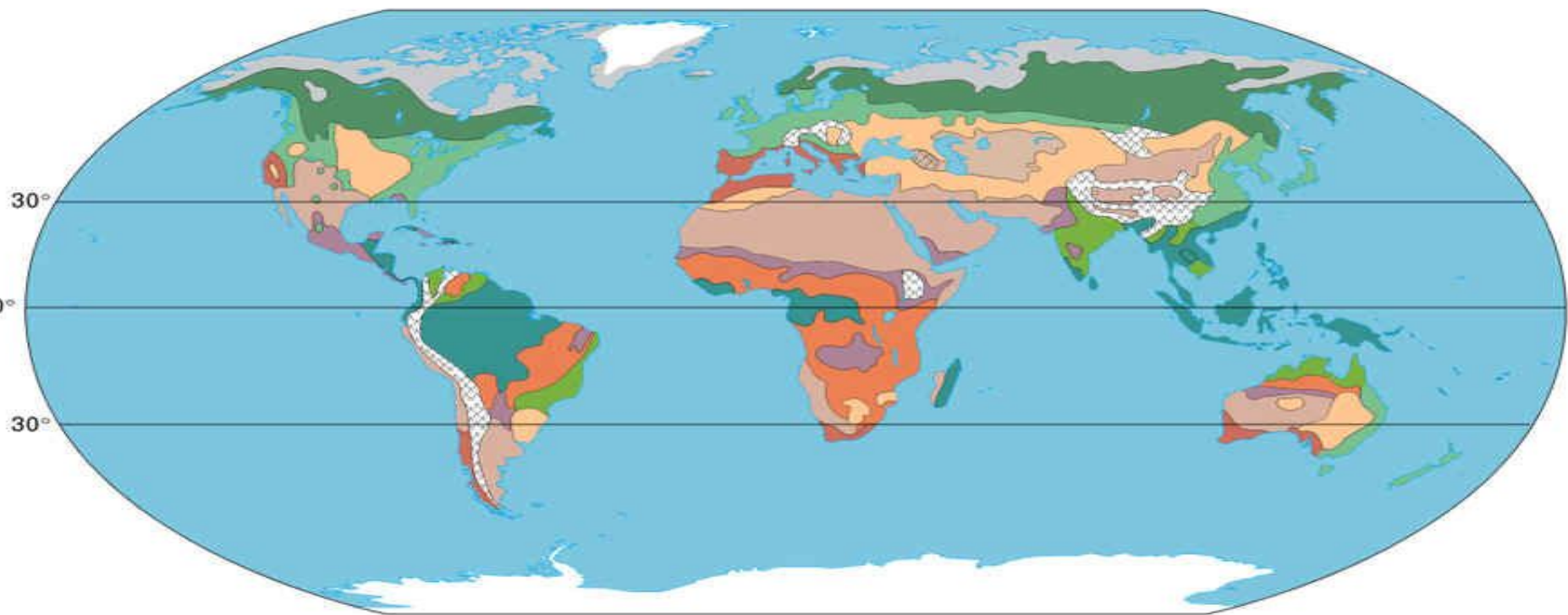
Interdependence: mutual reliance on each other

[How Wolves Change Rivers](#)




Ecosystem: collection of all the organisms that live in a particular place together with their physical environment

Biome: a group of ecosystems that have the same climate and similar dominant communities.




 Polar ice cap

 Tundra

 Boreal forest (taiga)


 Temperate forest

 Mediterranean scrub and woodland

 Grassland

 Desert

 Tropical rainforest

 Tropical seasonal forest

 Savanna

 Tropical thorn scrub and woodland

 Mountain