

Name: _____

Diagnostic Worksheet

Don't worry you won't be graded on this. This worksheet helps me get an idea of how much you guys know walking into the classroom, and what I need to teach. Answer each question with a few sentences.

1. What is a biological population?

2. Give your best definition of what a species is.

3. What is a vertebrate?

4. Name and explain a few factors might affect whether a population increases or decreases in size?

5. What is a community?

6. Can you give an example of how two species might interact?

7. Describe the concepts of the independent variable and the dependant variable in an experiment.

8. This question is more of an essay. Please write a few paragraphs about the following concepts:

- Define the word “natural.” What does it mean to you?
- What is “Nature?” Where do you find nature? Are people a part of the natural world?
- What does it mean when something is “wild?”
- Should humans manipulate or change the environment to help themselves? Should beavers?
- Why do you think I asked you about humans altering their environment and then about beavers?