

Environmental Science Terms

Using the word bank, write the correct term on the line provided.

ecological footprint ecosystem sustainability environmental worldview
inexhaustible resource exponential growth renewable resource environmental ethics
human-centered worldview nonrenewable resources

<u>environmental ethics</u>	Study of varying beliefs about what is right or wrong with how people treat the environment.
<u>ecosystem</u>	One or more communities of different species interacting with one another and with the chemical and physical factors of their nonliving environment.
<u>exponential growth</u>	Growth in which some quantity, such as population size or economic output, increases at a fixed percentage per unit of time.
<u>human-centered worldview</u>	Worldview that sees the natural world as a support system for human life.
<u>inexhaustible resource</u>	Resource available in continuous supply for the conceivable future. Examples include sunlight and the wind and flowing waters that sunlight powers.
<u>ecological footprint</u>	Amount of land and water needed to supply a population with renewable resources and to absorb and recycle the waste and pollution such resource use produces.
<u>environmental worldview</u>	An individual's set of assumptions and values concerning the natural world and what they think their role in managing it should be.
<u>nonrenewable resources</u>	Resource that exists in a fixed amount and takes millions to billions of years to form, so it will be used more quickly than it can be replaced. Examples include copper, aluminum, coal, oil, salt, and sand.
<u>sustainability</u>	Capacity of Earth's natural systems that support life (including human social systems) to maintain stability or to adapt to changing environmental conditions indefinitely.
<u>renewable resource</u>	Resource that can be replenished rapidly (in hours to centuries) through natural processes if it is not used up faster than it is replaced. Examples include forests, grasslands, wildlife, fertile topsoil, clean air, and fresh water.