



# Healthy Habitats Vocabulary



This vocabulary list is targeted for fourth and fifth grade students.

- **Abdomen (insect):** One of the three main body segments of insects. It is also the name given to one of the two main body parts of spiders.
- **Arachnid:** A class of eight-legged arthropods. They are comprised of spiders, scorpions, harvestmen, ticks, and mites.
- **Arthropods:** A large group of invertebrates, which means they do not have backbones (vertebrae). Insects, spiders, crabs, shrimp, millipedes, and centipedes are all arthropods. Arthropods have jointed feet, a segmented body, and an exoskeleton, a cuticle on the outside of their body.
- **Classification:** The process by which scientists group living organisms. Organisms are classified based on how similar they are.
- **Conservation:** To save, preserve or protect.
- **Endangered Species:** A group (population) of plants, animals, or other organisms that is in danger of becoming extinct. This could happen because there are few of that animal left, its predators have grown in number, or the climate that it lives in is changing.
- **Invasive Species:** An organism (plant, animal, fungus, or bacterium) that is not native and has negative effects on our environment, or our health. Invasive plants and animals are the second greatest threat to biodiversity after habitat loss.
- **Myriapod:** Any arthropod of the group Myriapoda, having an elongated segmented body with numerous paired, jointed legs, as a class comprising the centipedes and millipedes.
- **Natural Resource:** Anything that people can use which comes from nature. People do not make natural resources, but rather gather them from the earth. Examples of natural resources are air, water, wood, oil, wind energy, iron, and coal.
- **Native (Plant) Species:** A native plant species is one that occurs naturally in a particular region, state, ecosystem, and habitat without direct or indirect human actions.
- **Pollination/Pollinator:** The transfer of pollen from the anthers of a flower to the stigma of the same flower or of another flower. The insect that performs pollination.
- **Predator:** Any organism, plant, insect or animal, that exists by preying upon other organisms
- **Rehabilitation:** The act of restoring something to its original state.
- **Sensitive Species:** Any species of plant or animal that has been recognized as needing special management in order to prevent them to become threatened or endangered.
- **Thorax:** The thorax is the midsection of the insect body. It holds the head, legs, wings and abdomen.

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