**Unit 2: Ecology**

**Tentative Timeline: September 3th-October 4th, 2012**

**Test: October 7th and 8th**

**Chapters: Chapter 3 The Biosphere, Chapter 4: Ecosystems and Community, & Chapter 5 Populations, Chapter 6 Human Population**

**Essential Questions:**

* How do Earth’s living and nonliving parts interact and affect the survival of organisms?
* What factors contribute to a change in a population?

**LEARNING GOALS:**

* Explain how biotic and abiotic factors influence an organism
* Describe how consumers obtain energy and nutrients
* Trace the flow of energy through a living system
* Describe how matter cycles among the living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem
* Describe how water cycles through the biosphere
* Identify factors that affect population growth
* Explain and describe factors that determine the carry capacity and limit the population density
* Discuss the trend of human population and explain why the growth rate varies in different countries
* Determine between primary succession and secondary succession
* Distinguish between density dependant and density independent factors that affect secession
* Interrupt a succession timeline.

ASSIGNMENTS FOR UNIT 2:

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