Chapter 7.2: Marine Ecosystems

Marine Ecosystems

-Organisms that live in coastal areas adapt to changes in _____.

-Organisms that live in the open ocean adapt to changes in _____

_____

Coastal Wetlands

-Covered by _____ all or part of the time.

-Provide _____ for many fish and wildlife.

-They _____, protects from flooding, _____

and sediments, and _____ for boating, fishing, and hunting.

Estuaries

-An _____ is an area where fresh water from rivers mixes with salt water from the ocean.

-Very productive since they _____

while the surrounding land protects the estuaries from the harsh force of ocean waves.

-What are the Plants and Animals of Estuaries? (P.180-181 find 6)

_____

_____

-Estuaries support many marine organisms because they receive _____

_____

for plants and animals.

-Organisms that live in estuaries are able to _____ in salinity because it changes with

the tides.

What are the TWO Main Threats to Estuaries? (P. 181)

_____

Salt Marshes

-_____ are characterized by grasses, sedges, and other plants. Adapted to frequent

flooding and are found primarily throughout the temperate and subarctic regions.

-Supports a clams, fish, aquatic birds, crabs, and shrimp.

-Absorb _____ to help protect inland areas.

Mangrove Swamps

-Tropical or subtropical marine swamps that are characterized by the abundance of low to tall mangrove trees.

-Help _____

from storms.

-Provide a home for about 2,000 animal species.

-Have been filled with waste and destroyed in many parts of the world.

Rocky and Sandy Shores

-Rocky shores have many more plants and animals than sandy shores do because the rocks provide anchorage

for seaweed that animals can live on.

-Sandy shores dry out when the tide goes out, and many organisms that live between sand grains eat the

plankton left stranded on the sand.

-A barrier island is **(P. 182)** _____

Coral Reefs

Corals live only in _____ where there is enough light for photosynthesis.

Use Page 183 to answer the following questions

-What are they? _____

-Who lives there? _____

-How do they defend themselves? _____

-Why are they disappearing? _____

Oceans

-Because water absorbs light, sunlight that is usable by plants for photosynthesis penetrates only about _____

into the ocean.

-As a result, much of the ocean's life is concentrated in the _____

where sunlight penetrates to the bottom and rivers wash nutrients from the land.

-Seaweed and algae grow anchored to rocks, and phytoplankton drift on the surface. Invertebrates and fish then

feed on these plants.

What are the Plants and Animals of Oceans? (P. 184)

_____

_____

_____

How are Oceans Threatened? (P. 185)

_____

_____

_____

Arctic Ecosystems

-The Arctic Ocean is rich in nutrients from the surrounding landmasses and supports large populations of

_____, which feed a diversity of fish in the open water and under the ice.

-These fish are food for ocean birds, whales, and seals. Fish and seals then provide food for polar bears and

people on land.

-The arctic ecosystems at the North and South Poles depend on marine ecosystems because nearly all the food

comes from the ocean.

-The Antarctic is the only continent never colonized by humans.

-Used mainly for research.

-Even during the summer, only a few plants grow at the edges of the continent.

-Plankton form the basis of the food web _____

_____