

**speciation**—the formation of new species through evolution.

**species**—organisms that are capable of interbreeding with one another and incapable of breeding with other species.

**symbiotic relationships**—close, prolonged associations between two or more different organisms of different species that may, but do not necessarily, benefit the members.

**tertiary consumers**—organisms that consume secondary consumers or other tertiary consumers.

**transpiration**—the act or process of transpiring, or releasing water vapor, especially through the stomata of plant tissue or the pores of the skin.

**trophic level**—each of the feeding levels in a food chain.

**trophic pyramid**—the structure obtained if we organize the amount of energy contained in producers and consumers in an ecosystem by kilocalories per square meter, from largest to smallest.

## CHAPTER 5: POPULATION ECOLOGY

**age-structure pyramids**—graphical representations of populations' ages.

**albedo**—the fraction of solar energy that is reflected back into space.

**biotic potential**—the amount that the population would grow if there were unlimited resources in its environment.

**birth rate** (crude birth rate)—the number of live births per 1,000 members of the population in a year.

**bottleneck effect**—genetic drift resulting from the reduction of a population, typically by a natural disaster, such that the surviving population is no longer genetically representative of the original population.

**carrying capacity**—the maximum population size that can be supported by the available resources in a region.

**clumping dispersion**—the most common dispersion pattern for populations. In this type of dispersion, individuals "flock together."

**death rate** (crude death rate)—is equal to the number of deaths per 1,000 members of the population in a year.

**demographic transition model**—a model that's used to predict population trends based on the birth and death rates as well as economic status of a population.

**ecological footprint**—the amount of the Earth's surface that's necessary to supply the needs of, and dispose of the waste from a particular population.

**emigration**—the movement of individuals out of a population.

**founder effect**—occurs when a few individuals migrate away from the main population and establish a new population.