

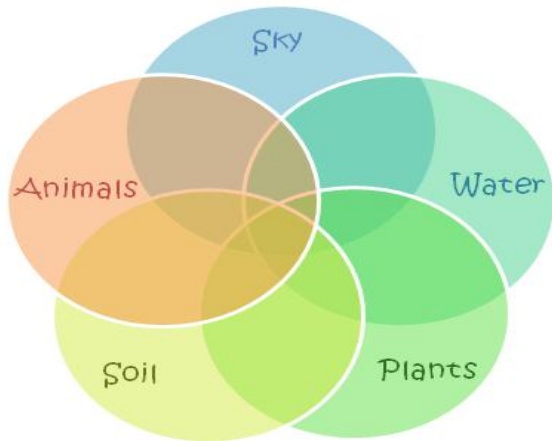


What is an Ecosystem?

You see lots of things at the Urrbrae Wetland but how do they all live together?

An ecosystem is made up of all the **living** and **non-living** things in an area. They all have an affect on each other.

The Urrbrae Wetland is an example of an ecosystem and it is made up of 5 main things, you need to decide which are living and which are non-living



*The **sky** is living / non-living*

*The **water** is living / non-living*

*The **plants** are living / non-living*

*The **soil** is living / non-living*

*The **animals** are living / non-living*

All 5 things are needed for a healthy ecosystem; if one is removed or damaged it can affect all the others.



Here are is a picture of a simple ecosystem. Put a star next to the things these trees need to survive.





Now you need to look at the Urrbrae Wetland ecosystem and draw the different things that make it. Follow these steps to draw your picture in the space below.

1. Draw the non-living parts of the ecosystem (there should be 3)
2. Draw some of the plants in the ecosystem
3. Draw two different animals you have seen today and show how they use the ecosystem (draw 5 lines to connect the animals to different living, and nonliving parts of the ecosystem, then write on the line what the connection is)



Unfortunately the Urrbrae Wetland ecosystem isn't separate from the rest of the world and there are some things that can damage it.



Talk about some of the things that could damage the Urrbrae Wetland ecosystem. Decide what part might be affected and discuss how you could reduce this impact.

Remember that if one of the 5 things is affected then others might be

