**Chapter 13: Ecosystems**

* **Identify the key components of an ecosystem**
* **Understand the nature of a living community**

**Your task today is to describe an Australian Ecosystem in detail**

1. Read page 409-411

* Define and compare:

*Population*

*Community*

*Ecosystem*

*Diversity*

1. Use your netbooks to research an Australian ecosystem and describe it in detail.

Choose one from:

Subalpine woodland

Tropical savannah

Coastal wetlands/floodplains

Coral reef

Floodplains and wetlands of the Murray-Darling basin

Box-Ironbark forest

Salt marshes/ mangroves (Victoria)

Western Basalt Plains Grassland

1. Include
   1. a list of known species,
   2. A general description of expected species (eg. It may be difficult to find out what invertebrates are in a community, but we can expect they would be present in many communities),
   3. size of populations,
   4. biotic and abiotic factors (Page 271),
   5. location of the species within the ecosystem (terms in table 9.3 page 269 can be used as a starting point)
   6. Some pictures of key species (these might play important roles or be endangered species)
   7. Role within the ecosystem 9
2. Three communities are described in the textbook (page 411-414). Use these as an example of what should be included.
3. The END PRODUCT
   1. Word document to be uploaded onto the wiki.
   2. We will use these to consider interactions and relationships within the ecosystem next week and create a food web.

If you finish:  
Follow the instructions to complete the food webs

<http://www.gould.edu.au/foodwebs/antarctic.htm>