## Contrasting Environments Glossary

<u>KEY TERMS</u>: canopy, agriculture, liana, ecosystem, desertification, food chain, epiphyte, herbivore, adaptation, savanna, climate, leaching, drip tip, biome, flora, buttress root, coral reef, shrub layer, deforestation, carnivore, polar, emergent, omnivore, fauna, desert

## As you learn these words, write them next to their correct definition:

environment  2 Biome  A very large ecosystem  3 Food web  Diagram showing what species feed on  4 Herbivore  An animal that only eats plants  5 Carnivore  An animal that only eats other animals  6 Omnivore  An animal that grow around tree trunks  8 Epiphyte  Air plants that grow without roots on branches  9 Buttress roots  Large, wide roots that support tall trees  10 Canopy  The main layer of treetops in the rainforest  11 Drip tips  Pointed tips of leaves allowing water to run off  12 Emergent  Tall trees emerging above the canopy layer  13 Shrub layer  Lowest layer or undergrowth in the rainforest  14 Deforestation  Clearing of areas of forest for other use  15 Leaching  When nutrients are washed out of the soil  16 Savanna  Hot ecosystem with wet and dry season  17 Fauna  Animal life  18 Flora  Flowers and plants  19 Desertification  The process where savannah becomes desert  20 Desert  A place that has little or no rainfall  21 Adaptation  Change in order to survive  22 Climate  Average weather conditions measured over time  23 Polar  The very north or south of the world  24 Agriculture  Another term for farming  25 Coral reef	1 Ecosystem	A unit made up of living things and their non-living
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