

# 13.2 Biotic and Abiotic Factors

## KEY CONCEPT

Every **ecosystem** includes both living and nonliving factors.



# 13.2 Biotic and Abiotic Factors

▶ An ecosystem includes both biotic and abiotic factors.

- Biotic factors are living things.

- plants
- animals
- fungi
- bacteria



— plants

# 13.2 Biotic and Abiotic Factors

- **Abiotic factors** are nonliving things.
  - moisture
  - temperature
  - wind
  - sunlight
  - soil



— sunlight

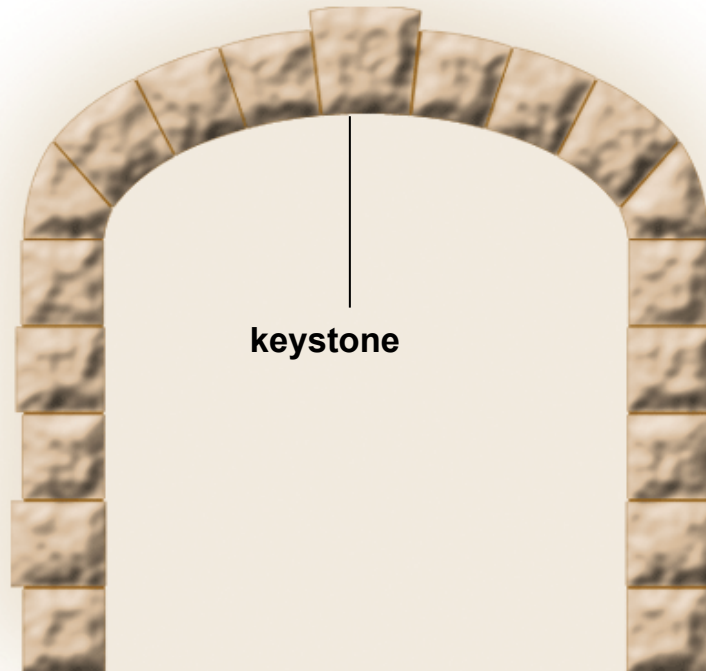
— moisture

## 13.2 Biotic and Abiotic Factors

- ▶ **Changing one factor in an ecosystem can affect many other factors.**
- **Biodiversity** is the assortment, or variety, of living things in an ecosystem.
- Rain forests have more biodiversity than other locations in the world, but are threatened by human activities.

## 13.2 Biotic and Abiotic Factors

- A **keystone species** is a species that has an unusually large effect on its ecosystem.



# 13.2 Biotic and Abiotic Factors

- **Keystone species** form and maintain a complex web of life.

