Energy in Ecosystems

Name: _____ Date: _____ Grade: Grade 5

Part A: Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer for each question.

1. In Grade 5 science, what is a keystone species?

- A) A species whose removal greatly changes the ecosystem
- B) Any large animal in the ecosystem
- C) A plant that grows the fastest
- D) An animal that lives only in zoos

2. What happened to elk numbers in Yellowstone after wolves were removed?

- A) Elk numbers grew very high
- B) Elk numbers stayed exactly the same
- C) Elk disappeared completely
- D) Elk turned into deer

3. Why did willow and aspen trees decline after wolves were removed?

- A) Elk ate young trees before they could grow
- B) The trees got too much rain
- C) Beavers ate every single one
- D) The trees moved to other parks

4. What did bringing wolves back to Yellowstone help restore?

- A) Biodiversity and healthy riverbanks
- B) More highways through the park
- C) Year-round snow on the ground
- D) Bigger parking lots near rivers

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the correct answer on each line.

1. A species that has very large effects on its ecosystem is called a _____ species.

2. When wolves were removed from Yellowstone, _____ populations increased too much.

3. Healthy riverbanks returned partly because beavers had more _____ to eat.

4. The variety of life that returned to Yellowstone is called _____.

5. When predators and prey numbers stay roughly steady, ecosystems reach _____.

Part A: Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer for each question.

1. In Grade 5 science, what is a keystone species?

- ● **A) A species whose removal greatly changes the ecosystem**
- ○ B) Any large animal in the ecosystem
- ○ C) A plant that grows the fastest
- ○ D) An animal that lives only in zoos

2. What happened to elk numbers in Yellowstone after wolves were removed?

- ● **A) Elk numbers grew very high**
- ○ B) Elk numbers stayed exactly the same
- ○ C) Elk disappeared completely
- ○ D) Elk turned into deer

3. Why did willow and aspen trees decline after wolves were removed?

- ● **A) Elk ate young trees before they could grow**
- ○ B) The trees got too much rain
- ○ C) Beavers ate every single one
- ○ D) The trees moved to other parks

4. What did bringing wolves back to Yellowstone help restore?

- ● **A) Biodiversity and healthy riverbanks**
- ○ B) More highways through the park
- ○ C) Year-round snow on the ground
- ○ D) Bigger parking lots near rivers

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the correct answer on each line.

1. A species that has very large effects on its ecosystem is called a **keystone** species.

2. When wolves were removed from Yellowstone, **elk** populations increased too much.

3. Healthy riverbanks returned partly because beavers had more **willow** to eat.

4. The variety of life that returned to Yellowstone is called **biodiversity**.

5. When predators and prey numbers stay roughly steady, ecosystems reach **equilibrium**.