



The Morton Arboretum

Vocabulary List – No Child Left Inside: 2nd to 3rd Grade

To maximize the effectiveness of your “No Child Left Inside” program at The Morton Arboretum, please familiarize your students with the following vocabulary words. This will be most effective just before the program.

1. **Habitat** – The place in nature where a plant or animal usually lives
2. **Food Web** – The interlocking food chains within an ecological community
3. **Ecosystem** – A community of living and non-living things in an environment working together
4. **Life Cycle** – The phases, changes, or stages through which a plant or animal passes during its lifetime
5. **Adaptation** – A body part or behavior that helps a living thing survive in an environment
6. **Decomposer** – A living thing that breaks down dead plant and animal materials
7. **Interdependence** – When plants and animals living together in an area depend upon one another for survival
8. **Survival** – Continuing to live through dangerous or hard conditions
9. **Pollinators** – Something (as an insect) that pollinates flowers
10. **Environment**- All the living and nonliving things that surround an organism where it lives
11. **Biodiversity** – The total number of different species in one area or on Earth as a whole