**Chapter D - Ecology**

Chapter 3 – Human Impact on Ecology

* 3.1 Human population growth presents challenges
	+ As the population continues to grow, there is a greater demand for natural resources. Cities and countries share many resources. Increasing populations put pressure on ecosystems.
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	+ Natural Resources –
		- Any type of matter or energy from Earth’s environment that humans use to meet their needs.
	+ Population Resources –
		- A measure of the number of organisms that live in a given area; the population density of a city may be given as the number of people living in a square kilometer.
* 3.2 – Human activities affect the environment
	+ Pollutions –
		- Pollution and habitat loss make it difficult for plants and animals to survive. Without the necessary resources, biodiversity of living things decreases, and ecosystems become less stable.
	+ Habitat Loss –
		- Pollution and habitat loss make it difficult for plants and animals to survive. Without the necessary resources, biodiversity of living things decreases, and ecosystems become less stable.
	+ Population –
		- The release of harmful substances into the air, water, or land.
	+ Biodiversity –
		- The number and variety of living things found on Earth or within an ecosystem.
* 3.3 – Humans are working to protect ecosystems
	+ Working at local and governmental levels, humans are helping ecosystems recover. Laws protect endangered species.
	+ Working at local and governmental levels, humans are helping ecosystems recover.
	+ Conservation –
		- The process of saving or protecting a natural resource.
	+ Sustainable –
		- A term that describes the managing of certain natural resources so that they are not harmed or used up; examples include maintaining clean groundwater and protecting topsoil from erosion.