

3. Answers will vary. Students should understand that the varieties of living organisms as well as the environmental processes can differ greatly between saltwater and freshwater ecosystems.

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1. Aquatic environments contain living organisms specially adapted to life within their ecosystem.
2. Aquatic ecosystems tend to have very different species of plants and animals, and the way these living organisms interact with their environment can differ as well.

1. How might elements in an aquatic ecosystem be similar to elements on land?
2. What elements make an aquatic ecosystem different from other ecosystems?
3. What differences would you expect to find between freshwater and saltwater ecosystems?