**5th Grade Science Vocabulary Words**

Abiotic-nonliving things in an environment

Air pressure-the weight of air molecules pressing down on the Earth

Anemometer-an instrument for measuring and indicating the force or speed and direction of the wind

Aquatic-living or growing in water

Atmosphere-the layers of gases that surround Earth

Barometer-an instrument that measures air pressure and is used to forecast changes in the weather

Biotic-living things in an environment

Circulatory system-the system that moves blood, oxygen, and nutrients through the body

Condensation-the changing of a gas into a solid

Conduction-the passing of heat through a material while the material itself stays in place

Consumers-living things that must eat other organisms to obtain energy necessary for life

Convection-the flow of heat through a liquid or gas, caused by hot parts rising and cooler parts sinking

Decomposers-organisms that break down dead or decaying plant and animal material

Digestive system-a group of organs working together to break down food into tiny molecules

Ecosystem-all the living and nonliving things in an environment including their interactions with each other

Estuary-an area where seawater mixes with freshwater

Evaporation-the change of a liquid into a gas below the boiling point

Food chain-the path that energy and nutrients follow in an ecosystem

Food web-the overlapping food chains in an ecosystem

Friction-a force that opposes the motion of one object moving past another

Genetics-the study of heredity or how traits are passed in genes from parent to offspring

Grasslands-an area of land that contains mostly grasses

Inherited traits-a characteristic that is passed from parent to offspring

Joint-a point where two bones of the skeleton come together usually in a way that allows motion

Mass-a measure of how much matter is in an object

Momentum-the mass of an object multiplied by its velocity

Nervous system-a system of the body that controls everything you do and is made up of the brain, spinal cord, and nerves

Precipitation-the liquid and solid water particles that fall from clouds and reach the ground

Producers-organisms that use the sun’s energy to make their own food in the form of sugar

Radiation-the transfer of heat through electromagnetic rays

Respiratory system-a system of the body used in breathing

Runoff-water from rain, snow or other sources that flows over the land surface

Salt marsh-wetlands that form between the ocean and the land

Single-celled-an organism that is made of one cell that carries out its life processes

Terrestrial-operating or living or growing on land

Transfer-the movement of energy from one place to another

Weight-a measure of how gravity pulls on an object

Wind vane-a device that measures the direction of the wind