

**Earth Scientist
Vocabulary**
**FCAT Science words*

1. ***biodiversity:** the existence of a wide range of different species in a given area or a specific period of time.
2. ***dependent variable:** factor being measured or observed in an experiment.
3. ***evaporation:** the process in which a liquid is converted to its vapor phase by heating the liquid.
4. ***investigation:** a procedure that is carried out in order to observe a response caused by a stimulus; not a complete experiment.
5. ***liquid:** one of the fundamental states of matter with a definite volume but no definite shape.
6. ***scientific method:** a plan of inquiry that uses science process skills as a tool to gather, organize, analyze, and communicate information.
7. ***variable:** the event, condition, or factor that can be changed or controlled in order to study or test a hypothesis in a scientific experiment.
8. ***air resistance:** force of air moving objects.
9. ***dependent variable:** factor being measured or observed in an experiment.
10. ***energy:** a quantity that describes the capacity to do work; a source of usable power.
11. ***experiment:** a procedure that is carried out and repeated under controlled conditions in order to discover, demonstrate, or test a hypothesis; includes all components of scientific method.
12. ***pressure:** the force exerted per unit area.
13. ***system:** a set of objects, organisms, or different parts acting to form a whole.
14. **Slash pine forest:** a habitat consisting primarily of slash pine trees and palmetto.
15. **temperature:** measurement of heat or cold.
16. **humidity:** amount of moisture in the air.
17. **compass:** an instrument used to find direction; can be used to determine the direction of the wind.

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18. **direction:** the way in which somebody or something goes, points, or faces.
19. **organisms:** complete living plant or animal.
20. **moisture:** wetness, especially as droplets of condensed or absorbed liquid, or in a vapor.
21. **scientist:** a person who studies a subject usually in the natural world.
22. **anemometer:** an instrument that measures the force of the wind.
23. **instruments:** a tool or mechanical device, especially one used for precision work in science, medicine, or technology.
24. **thermometer:** an instrument for measuring temperature, e.g. an instrument with a graduated glass tube and a bulb containing mercury or alcohol that rises in the tube when the temperature increases.
25. **habitat:** ecology the natural conditions and environment in which a plant or animal lives, e.g. forest, desert, or wetlands.
26. **ecosystem:** a localized group of interdependent organisms together with the environment that they inhabit and depend on.