

# Lesson 1

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**ANSWER KEYS**

# Literacy Skill Q's

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**Summarize** How does plowing help plants grow better?

Plowing makes getting water and nutrients from the soil easier.

**Explain** What are four different components of the biosphere?

Sample answer: plants, animals, bacteria, and mushrooms

# Literacy Skill Q's

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## Geosphere and Biosphere

Earth's biosphere includes the living things in the air and water and on land. The mountain lion in the photo is just one of the millions of kinds of living things that are part of the biosphere. The biosphere is able to support so many kinds of living things because of its interaction with other spheres.

The large rock in the photo is part of Earth's geosphere. The **geosphere** is the Earth system that includes rocks, soil, and sediments. Rocks on Earth's surface are easy to see, but rocks are also below the surface. Some of those rocks are molten, or melted. Rocks are present in all parts of Earth—from its surface to its very center.

 **READING CHECK Cause and Effect** Why can the biosphere support so many different kinds of living things? Underline the cause.

# Literacy Skill Q's

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**Describe** How do you think the geosphere and biosphere interact?

Sample answer: The geosphere  
(land) supports the plants and  
animals in the biosphere that  
cannot survive in water.