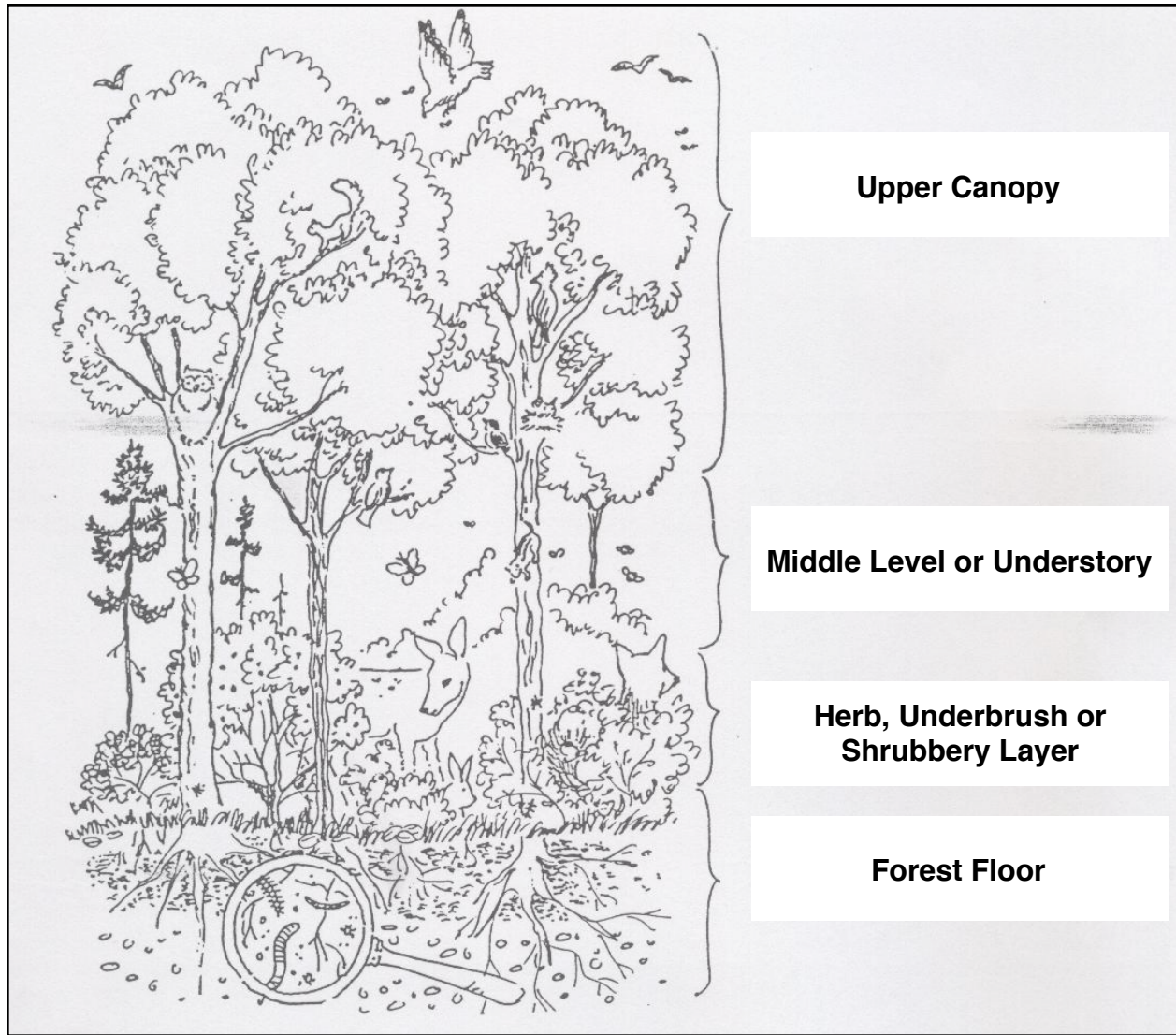


Levels of the Forest



Upper Canopy

Middle Level or Understory

Herb, Underbrush or Shrubbery Layer

Forest Floor

Upper Canopy	Middle Level / Understory	Herb / Underbrush / Shrubbery Layer	Forest Floor
<p>This is the top level of the forest formed by leaves and branches of the tallest trees. Up to 35% of rain falling on a forest is intercepted by the canopy.</p> <p>Different birds (owls, orioles, etc.) and insects (aphids, tent caterpillars) make their home here.</p>	<p>This is home to smaller trees and larger shrubs. It provides a sheltered space for birds and small mammals to travel.</p> <p>Many insects, lichen, squirrels, woodpeckers, and many other birds can be found living here.</p>	<p>Ferns, wildflowers and other soft stem plants, tree seedlings, butterflies, dragonflies, mice, weasels, deer, porcupine, skunks, and rabbits find their food sources in this layer.</p>	<p>This level includes the ground cover and the soil. The ground cover includes leaf litter, mushrooms, insects, salamanders, toads, moss, and flowers. The soil is the storehouse for growth. There are thin layers of organic and mineral materials covering bedrock. Worms, bacteria, soil insects, tree roots, spiders, millipedes and centipedes are found here.</p>