

Grade 6: Biodiversity

Biodiversity is the variation in life within a given ecosystem, biome, or for the entire Earth.

Students will understand the importance of species diversity in plants and animals, and among the communities and landscapes that support them. Students will explore different points of view with respect to the effects of human activities on Biodiversity and how it affects the health of the planet. While studying Biodiversity, students will learn that all living things are connected in one way or another, and it is the choices we make that can be either beneficial or damaging to our planet.

Individual Expectations

Understand the importance of biodiversity as it relates to ecosystems, genetic diversity, and species diversity; explore the positive and negative aspects of human activities on biodiversity; and think of ways we can all contribute to the conservation of our planet.

Science and Technology Ideas/Vocabulary:

Ecosystems

Species diversity

Over-harvesting

Biomes

Conservation

Genetic diversity

Invasive species

Grade 6: Biodiversity - Classification

Students will learn how scientists classify organisms into various groupings established by the famous Scientist Carl Linnaeus, who grouped species according to their shared physical characteristics.

Students will understand the methods used for classification, and will examine different groups of invertebrate and vertebrate species.

Individual expectations

Demonstrate an understanding of biological classification; identify the physical characteristics used in the process of classification; classify animals from the various vertebrate and invertebrate classes.

Science and Technology Ideas/Vocabulary:

Classification	Biodiversity	Mammals
Invertebrate	Characteristics	Reptiles
Vertebrate	Organisms	Amphibians
Insects	Arthropods	Bird
Fish		