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What is Biodiversity

Biodiversity: The Variety of Life on Earth

DEFINITION

> Biodiversity means the variety of living things in an ecosystem. It includes different species, genetic variations, and ecosystems.

KEY CONCEPTS

Species Diversity

This refers to the number of different species in a particular area.

Genetic Diversity

This is the variety of genes within a species, which helps populations adapt.

Ecosystem Diversity

This includes different habitats and ecosystems, like forests, deserts, and oceans.

Importance of Biodiversity

Biodiversity supports ecosystem services like clean air, water, and food production.

Threats to Biodiversity

Habitat loss, pollution, and climate change are major threats to biodiversity.

EXAMPLES

→ Rainforests have thousands of species of plants and animals.

→ Coral reefs are diverse ecosystems with many marine species.

→ Urban gardens can support various pollinators like bees and butterflies.

MEMORY TIPS

★ Remember 'B.E.S.T.' for Biodiversity: Balance, Ecosystems, Species, and Threats.

★ Think of a colorful puzzle to visualize the variety of life.

★ Use the acronym 'G.E.S.' for Genetic, Ecosystem, and Species diversity.

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Confusing biodiversity with just the number of species.

✗ Overlooking the importance of genetic diversity.

✗ Not recognizing human impact on biodiversity.

QUICK RECAP

Biodiversity is the variety of life on Earth, including species, genetic, and ecosystem diversity. It is crucial for maintaining healthy ecosystems and faces threats from human activities. Understanding biodiversity helps us protect our planet.