



The Wonders Of Biodiversity



Read the passage below and answer the questions on the next page.

In the heart of the rainforest, a vibrant tapestry of life unfolds. This diverse array of plants, animals, and microorganisms is what we call biodiversity. Biodiversity, a term derived from 'biological diversity', describes the variety of life on Earth.

Biodiversity is not limited to rainforests, it can be found in every environment, from the hottest deserts to the coldest polar regions. It includes every organism, from the smallest bacteria living in the soil to the largest mammal walking on Earth.

Biodiversity is essential for a healthy planet. It helps ecosystems function properly. For instance, every plant has a role in the cycle of life. They produce oxygen which we, and other animals, need to breathe. Animals contribute as well. Bees, for example, help pollinate plants, leading to the growth of fruits and seeds.

In addition to supporting life, biodiversity also provides practical benefits to humans. Many medicines are derived from plant and animal species. We also rely on biodiversity for food, from different types of crops to varieties of fish and other seafood.

However, biodiversity is under threat due to human activities. Deforestation, pollution, climate change, and overfishing are causing species to disappear at an alarming rate. This loss of biodiversity can have serious consequences. For example, if a type of bee becomes extinct, the plants they pollinate may also die off, leading to a ripple effect throughout the ecosystem.

To preserve biodiversity, many nations have set up conservation areas, and scientists are studying ways to lessen human impact on the environment. Everyone can help in this effort by practicing environmentally friendly habits such as recycling, reducing waste, and supporting renewable energy.

1) What is biodiversity according to the text?

2. How does biodiversity support the function of ecosystems? Give an example from the passage.

3) How does biodiversity benefit humans according to the passage?

4) What are some threats to biodiversity mentioned in the passage?

5) What are some ways that humans are working to preserve biodiversity, as mentioned in the passage?
