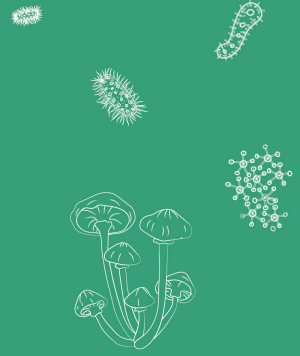


BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

What is Biological Diversity?

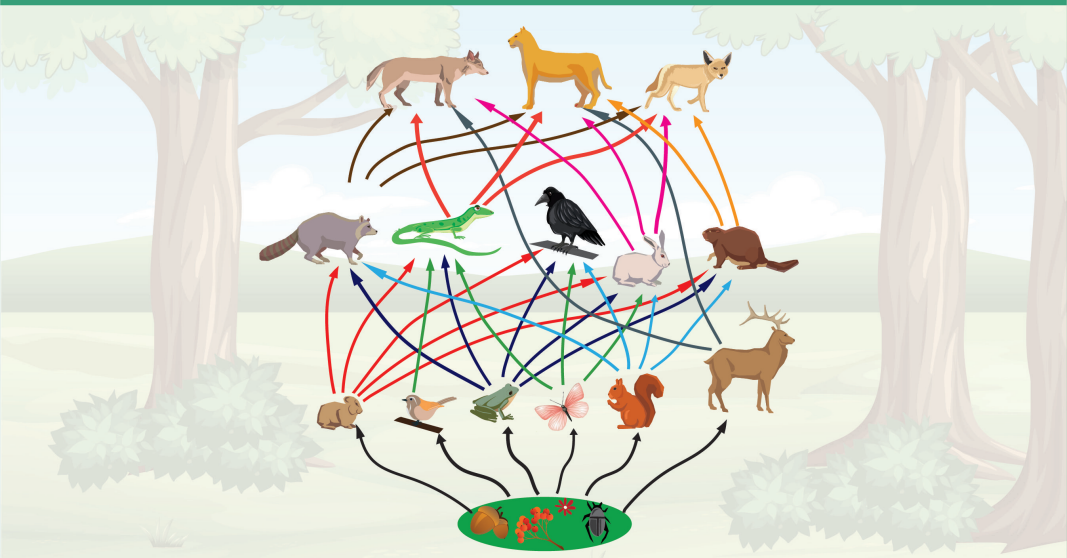
It is the variety of life on Earth at all its levels, from genes, species, to ecosystems. The number of biological species is estimated at 9 million, with about 2 million identified.



What benefit does biodiversity provide to people?

It provides us with food, energy, fresh water, medicines and many other essential properties.

The food chain shows the relationship between organisms.



Five mass extinctions in biodiversity have occurred during the planet Earth's history.

The sixth is happening now and for the first time humans are the cause.

During the 6th extinction, the estimates of the growth in annual biodiversity loss are alarming:

1 to 9
species
*before
the Industrial
Revolution*

900
species
*in the beginning of
the 21st century*

9000
species
*during
the 21st century*

WHAT CAN WE DO?

AUA ACOPIAN CENTER
for the ENVIRONMENT