



MEASURING BIODIVERSITY

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1. What's biodiversity?

The word BIODIVERSITY was only invented in 1980

DEFINITION OF BIODIVERSITY

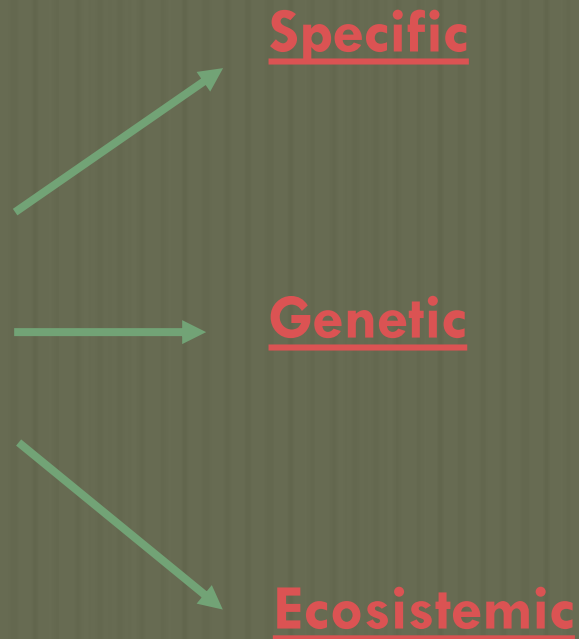


The term *biodiversity* comes from the words *biological* and *diversity*.

It refers to the variety of life, and includes **all living things** (plants, animals and micro-organisms) and their unique characteristics.

Which Biodiversity?

Biodiversity can be divided into three hierarchical categories



Genetic diversity, the variety of genetic heritage within a species



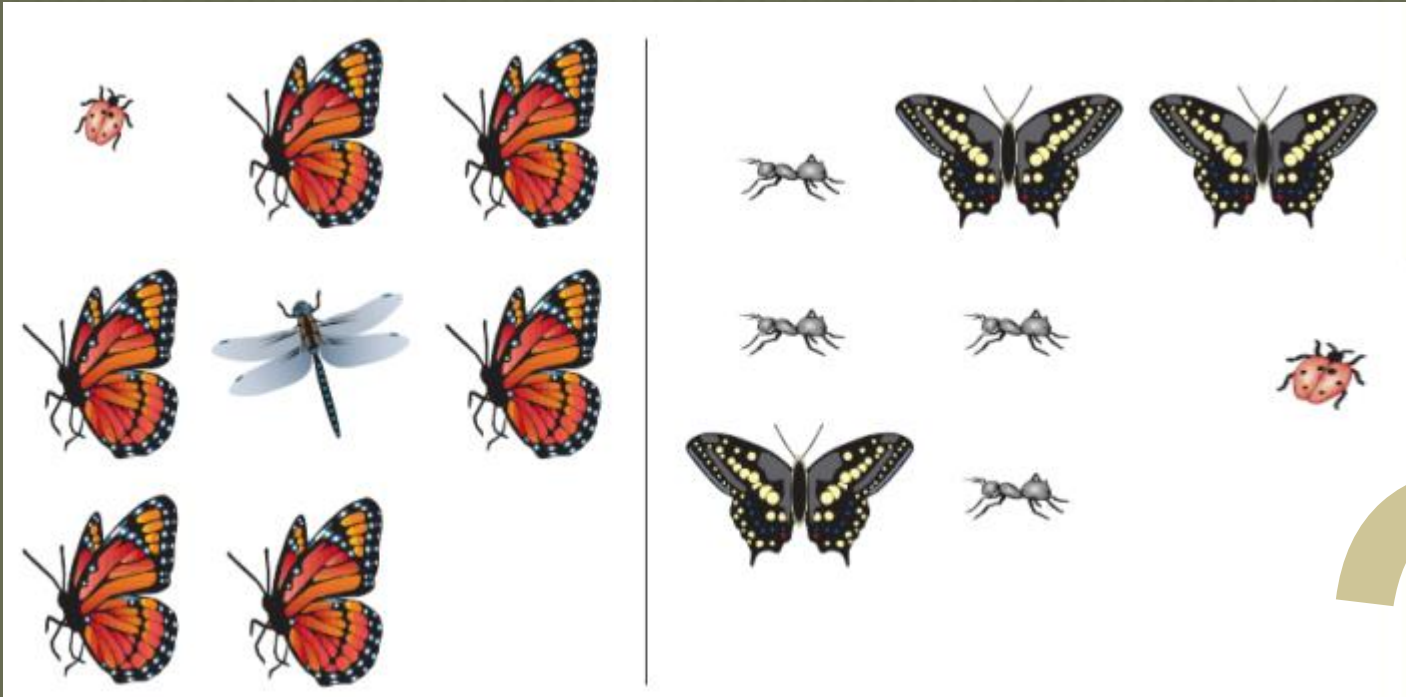
diversity of species,
indicates the abundance and
diversity of species



SPECIES RICHNESS

- The number of species found in an area is thus defined and constitutes one of the possible measures of biodiversity in comparison with other areas.
- **SPECIES RICHNESS** varies geographically: in warm climates or where there is greater humidity, a greater number of species generally live than in cold climates. In fact, the rainforests (in the tropics) are the areas with the highest biodiversity index (at least 50% of living beings).

In which of the two sets is there greater biodiversity?



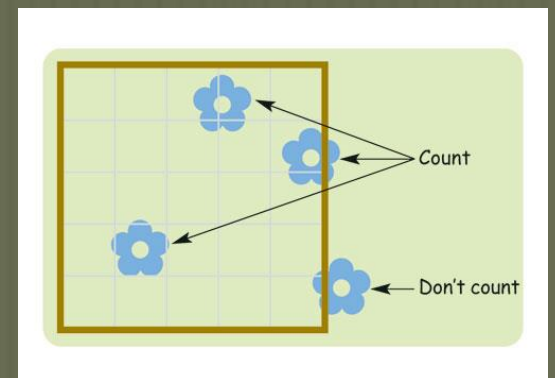
3 species

3 species



Measuring species richness

- Qualitative
- Square technique
- No need to identify species



Measuring evenness

- Quantitative
- Calculate relative abundance

