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Levels of biodiversity:

1. Genetic
2. Species
3. Communities
4. Ecosystems

Biodiversity refers to the variety of life on Earth. It allows the complex structure of the biological world and without it ecosystems would soon fall apart.

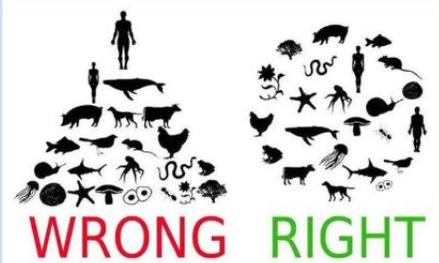
Threats to biodiversity:

- Climate Change
- Overfishing
- Deforestation
- Pollution
- Invasive Species

25% of mammals, 41% of amphibians and 13% of birds are threatened according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature

Biodiversity Matters!
We rely on healthy ecosystems for:

- Food
- Medicines
- Jobs
- Biological health
- Recreation



<https://www.thedodo.com/top-of-the-food-chain-877255355.html>

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1f00FtNzhGb-f0A5fJoDnPeR5YcT8Jmb3hCoPbxDAz1k/edit?usp=sharing>

I was traveling today to look at colleges and I did not have access to paper. So I made a slide presentation on biodiversity instead!

I remember learning about biodiversity in my eighth grade science class. I did a project with my friend Jared on the negative impacts Round-up oriented farming causes to the environment. It was super fun actually. We made a presentation about glyphosate and even made a little intro song that we sang as we walked up to present. We played music in the background (“Come and get your Love”) but swapped the original lyrics for phrases like “What’s wrong with GMOssss.” It was a blast and super informative too!

I believe farming has a huge role in biodiversity and human influence. Our current methods of monoculture and pesticides destroy entire ecosystems and rely on the survival of one species! This could lead to disaster if a certain disease wipes out a crop we rely heavily on. Modern bananas are in danger because of this very reason. I have always been interested in agriculture. In third grade, I wanted to have my own farm and I still do to this day. Finding ways to incorporate native species can promote biodiversity and brings in other organisms into the

system. For example, planting flowers can attract pollinators which will reduce the need for artificial fertilization. Bring in helpful bugs will control pests and now you don't have to spray. Species on the decline like the honey bee will then finally have a chance to come back. The idea of forest gardens also fascinates me. They can be extremely productive when mature and provide a habitat for an entire ecosystem! In college I want to explore more green agricultural methods. Besides making ethical choices of consumption, dedicating time and resources into new research is crucial!