

# Biodiversity

**Date:**

**Lesson: 2**

## Learning Objectives:

- What is biodiversity?
- How many biomes does the world have?
- Why is protecting biodiversity important?
- What is a trophic cascade, and what causes one?
- How can we re-evaluate our relationship with nature?

## Materials Needed:

- [PowerPoint Presentation](#)
- Biodiversity Match-Up Activity

## Structure / Activity:

**Starter:** Students are asked to define biodiversity. An explanation is given using the PowerPoint slides. Students are then shown a world map. They are asked to raise their hand if they can think of an animal that might be present in each biome. They are given the biome match up activity sheet to fill in as they go.

Teacher follows the PowerPoint presentation, asking students for answers and other contributions where appropriate.

## Assessment / Plenary:

- Continual self-assessment of students work after the conclusion of each activity.
- Students return to the questions asked at the start of the lesson and answer them using what they have learned throughout the lesson.
- If there is extra time remaining, students may watch the Okunoshima video on the final slide and complete the comprehension questions.



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## References:

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**Demello, M., 2019.** The Rabbits of Okunoshima: How Feral Rabbits Alter Space, Create Relationships, and Communicate with People and Each Other. In *Texts, Animals, Environments: Zoopoetics and Ecopoetics*. Rombach Druck-und Verlagshaus.

**Ducarme, F., Luque, G.M. and Courchamp, F., 2013.** What are “charismatic species” for conservation biologists. *BioSciences Master Reviews*, 10 (2013), pp.1-8.

**Estes, J.A., et al., 2011.** Trophic downgrading of planet Earth. *science*, 333 (6040), pp.301-306.

**Great Big Story, nd.** The Mystery of Rabbit Island. YouTube. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDsaOh6etrg> Accessed 04.08. 22.

**National Geographic, 2017.** This Island is Overrun by Rabbits - Here's why it is a Problem. Available at: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/rabbit-island-japan-overrun-tourism-spd> Accessed 04.08. 22.

**National Geographic, nd.** 'Food Chain' Available at: <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/food-chain>. Accessed 13.08.22

