

Organism Interactions

Competition

Definition:

Competition occurs when organisms attempt to use an ecological resource at the same place and time.

Detailed Example:

Lions and vultures are competing over a dead zebra for food.



Symbiosis

Definition:

Symbiosis exists when organisms of two different species lie in close association with each other for the benefit of one or both of them.

Predation

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Definition:

When one organism benefits by killing and eating another organism

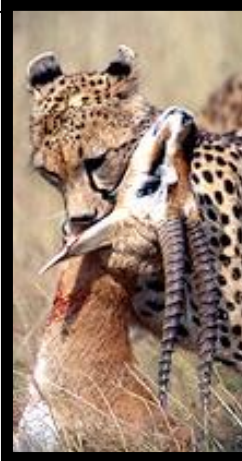
Detailed Examples:

A cheetah kills and eats a gazelle. The cheetah gets food and the gazelle is killed.

It is not a symbiotic relationship.

Symbol:

+ RIP



Mutualism

Definition:

When both organisms are benefiting or better off because of their relationship with each other

Detailed Examples:

The butterfly gets nectar to eat... the flower gets pollen carried to another flower. Both organisms are benefitting.

Symbol:

+ +



Parasitism

Definition:

When one organism benefits by doing harm to its host (the other organism)
It does not kill the other organism.

Detailed Examples:

A tick feeds on blood. The tick bites a dog and gets food from him. The tick is benefitted and the dog is harmed.

Symbol:

+ -



Commensalism

Definition:

When one organism benefits without affecting or harming the other organism

Detailed Examples:

An airplant lives on a tree. The airplant receives a place to live. The tree is not benefitting or getting harmed.

Symbol:

+ 0

