

## What do you think of when you hear the term **DIVERSITY OF SPECIES?**

**Diversity of species refers to the variation in the number of species present in a region. It refers to all types of organisms (bacteria, fungi, plants, animals, etc.).**

**Humans are just one of the one million, seven hundred thousand species believed to inhabit the Earth.**

Diversity of species refers to the number of animals inhabiting the Earth every year.

Diversity of species are the different condiments used in cooking (parsley, paprika, oregano, salt, etc.).

## And what about **GENETIC DIVERSITY?**

**This refers to the genetic differences of each living organism, making each individual unique and unrepeatable. Just as there are no two people the same, no two sparrows are the same, or two strawberries... every living thing is unique.**

Genetic diversity is the variety of domesticated species (livestock and agriculture) coming from wild species.

This refers to science fiction: video games and movies about genes.

## A little more difficult, What do you think **DIVERSITY of ECOSYSTEMS** means?

**This is the diversity of ecosystems on the planet: forests, deserts, seas, mountains, rivers, etc. The ECOSPHERE includes all of the ecosystems on Earth (land and aquatic).**

This is the diversity of jungles in the Amazon that is one of the most diverse places in the world.

There is no such thing as Diversity of Ecosystems, it is a concept invented to sell more science books.

## There is another kind of BIODIVERSITY called CULTURAL. What do you think this means?

This is BIODIVERSITY that has been domesticated. All types of animals and plants have been used by humans for a long time. This forms part of a biological and cultural heritage.

For example, melons from Villaconejos, cows in Guadarrama, beans from La Granja... are all examples of this type of diversity.

BIODIVERSITY of cultural regions on the planet, where all people share a common language and have the same customs.

CULTURAL BIODIVERSITY is a term used to refer to the different types of caves used by humans in Palaeolithic times.

## Have you ever heard of DIVERSITY “Hot Spots”? What are they?

This English term refers to areas where biological diversity is particularly rich. There are more than 30 “Hot Spots” on the planet, and the Mediterranean (where we live) is one of them.

The “Hot Spots” are a band from the United States with a hit song called BIODIVERSITY ON THE MOON

“Hot Spots” are places on the planet that are very hot, usually in deserts. No organisms can survive in these areas.

## You hear about BIOPIRACY in the news. What does it mean?

BIOPIRACY refers to the improper use of the biological wealth of indigenous people around the world. Normally, legal means are used (such as patents) to turn natural and cultural resources into private property.

BIOPIRACY refers to pirates in the past who hid on remote islands and lived in nature.

It is a popular video game in Japan. In the game you are a biodegradable pirate.

## Where do you think there is greater BIODIVERSITY?

A Zoo

A corn field

A forest

**ZOO:** there are a lot of different species (**HIGH RICHNESS**), but very few individuals of each species (**LOW ABUNDANCE**) and they are not in their natural ecosystem but in an artificial habitat created by humans.

**CORN FIELD:** although there is a very large number of one species (**HIGH ABUNDANCE**) there are not many species other than corn (**LOW RICHNESS**) and they are not in a natural ecosystem but in an artificial habitat created by humans: a crop.

**FOREST:** there are different species of animals, plants and other living things (fungi, bacteria, etc.) (**HIGH RICHNESS**) and also there is a large number of each species (communities) in their natural habitat

## The Mediterranean region is

A "HOT SPOT"

A SPOTIFY

A DIVERSITY SPOT

## What is a MEGA-DIVERSE country?

Countries where there is a great deal of BIODIVERSITY, such as Mexico, Brazil and Ecuador

A country where they give MEGA for free to surf the Internet

A large country, for example Russia, China or the United States. Spain is a mini-country

## Do you know of a breed of dog native to Madrid?

**The Alano. This enormous dog appears in Las Meninas, the famous painting by Velázquez**

The Siberian Husky, typical of the central region

The Foro pup, a playful and friendly mixed breed

## How many species are there on the planet?

**There are almost 2 million scientifically identified species. It is believed there are another 3 to 7 million still to be known**

500,000 species. A huge amount if we consider that humans, the centre of the universe, are only one.

No one knows and we will never know. They become extinct so quickly it's impossible for scientists to identify them.

## The La Granja bean or Villaconejos melons are:

**A part of our CULTURAL BIODIVERSITY heritage.**

Generic brands of products found in local markets.

It's the reverse: Villaconejos beans and La Granja melons. It's a trick question!

## What services does BIODIVERSITY provide us?

**SUPPLY  
REGULATION  
CULTURE**

Various services for food, clothing and raw materials

**REGULATION  
DEVELOPMENT  
RECREATION**