

Name: _____ Date: _____

BIODIVERSITY WEBQUEST

This assignment is worth 200 points and is due at the end of class today. The links are provided on Mr. Wuenschel's "Environmental Science" web page. Provide detailed responses to the questions!

What is Biodiversity?

Go to the "Global Issues – Biodiversity" web site
<http://www.globalissues.org/issue/169/biodiversity>

1. What is the definition this website gives for biodiversity?

On this web site, scroll down and click on "Loss of Biodiversity and Extinctions"

2. What is the current rate of extinction listed here (compared to the "background rate")?
3. List three different statistics related to biodiversity that you find here

Why does biodiversity matter?

Go to the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation web site:
<http://cbc.amnh.org/center/what.html>

Scroll down to the paragraph labeled "Why is Biodiversity Important?"
List five of the benefits of biodiversity that are listed here:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

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Biodiversity Threats

Go to : <http://www.globalissues.org/article/171/loss-of-biodiversity-and-extinctions>

4. List and describe five examples of declining biodiversity listed here.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.

What can you do?

Go to <http://www.amnh.org/our-research/center-for-biodiversity-conservation/what-you-can-do>

2. List and describe five actions listed here that individuals can do to help create and support biodiversity?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.

3. Which of these options are most relevant to you? Explain.

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Go to the Spectrum of Life page

<http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/permanent-exhibitions/biodiversity-and-environmental-halls/hall-of-biodiversity/spectrum-of-life>

Choose 5 major groups of organisms. For each group list the number of known species, where they live, and the ecological role and human uses

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.