Characteristics of Living Organisms

Biology 1.1

Objectives

Define and give examples of Earth's biodiversity
Summarize the characteristics that all living things share
Summarize four major unifying themes of biology

Earth's Diverse Life

All living things and all the places they are found on Earth makeup the biosphere. Earth's biosphere is full of incredible biodiversity (the variety of life) Generally increases from Earth's poles to equator (warmer areas). Several species - particular type of living things that can reproduce by interbreeding among themselves.

Biology: the scientific study of all forms of life, or all types of organisms.

Organism- any individual living thing.

All organisms on Earth share certain characteristics

Made of one or more cells.

Cell: the basic unit of life

Unicellular Paramecium (Shown)
 Multicellular – Human Being.



Displays Organization

Paramecium: One celled but it is a collection of organized structures that carry on life processes.
Multicellular: Specialized cells are organized into groups that work together called: 1. Tissues, 2. Organs, 3. Organ Systems.

Grows and Develops Tadpole develops into a frog.



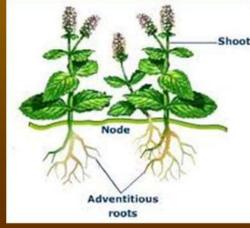


Instructions for growth and development carried by DNA and RNA (ribonucleic acid.
process of development allows organisms to mature and gain the ability to reproduce.

Reproduces

 When organism reproduce they pass on genetic material, DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid)

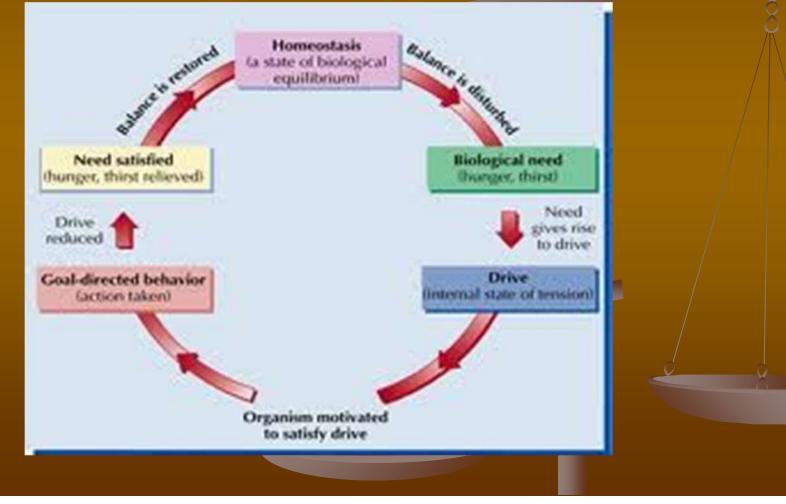
 Asexual- single-celled organisms- one cell divides into two cells- identical to original cell Sexual- Two multicellular parent organisms





Responds to Stimuli

Reactions to internal and external stimuli.



Maintains Homeostasis

Perspiring to maintain temperature.



Adaptations Evolve Over Time

Tropical Orchids have adapted to life in a soil-less environment.

Requires Energy

Chemical energy either from food or sunlight
 Organisms either take in food or make

their own.

