

Combined Science - Biology - Key stage 4  
Ecology

# Biodiversity

Dr Clapp



# Independent practice

1. What is biodiversity?
2. Why is low biodiversity a bad thing?
3. Give four examples of human activities that decrease biodiversity
4. What is the difference between being endangered and being extinct?



# Independent practice - answers

1. What is biodiversity?

**The variety of living organisms in a given place**

1. Why is low biodiversity a bad thing?

**It increases the dependence of one organism on another so if one is affected lots of others will be as well**



# Independent practice - answers

3. Give four examples of human activities that decrease biodiversity

**Increased farming, building, quarrying, deforestation, clearing peat bogs, waste management**

4. What is the difference between being endangered and being extinct?

**Endangered means there are very few individuals of the species left and they are at risk of becoming extinct. Extinct means that no individuals of the species are left.**



# Independent practice

Complete the following sentences:

The increased population means that more \_\_\_\_\_ are being used and more \_\_\_\_\_ is being produced which leads to \_\_\_\_\_.

More land is also being used for b\_\_\_\_\_, q\_\_\_\_\_, f\_\_\_\_\_ and p\_\_\_\_\_ b\_\_\_\_\_.

In addition, trees are being cut down so there is more room for \_\_\_\_\_ and crops for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.



# Independent practice - answers

Complete the following sentences:

The increased population means that more **resources** are being used and more **waste** is being produced which leads to **pollution**.

More land is also being used for **buildings, quarrying, farming** and **peat bogs**.

In addition, trees are being cut down so there is more room for **cattle** and crops for **food** and **biofuels**.



# Independent practice

For each of the 5 ways of maintaining biodiversity explain how they help and give an example.

(breeding programs, managing habitats, field margins/hedgerows, targets and limiting resource use)

Model:

Breeding programs increase the populations of endangered species. An example is the giant panda.



# **Independent practice - answers**

**The protection and regeneration of habitats provides more places for species to live and will increase their numbers. An example are coral reefs.**

**Having field margins and hedgerows increases soil fertility, stops erosion and provides habitats. An example would be planting hedgerows in the middle of large fields.**



# Independent practice - answers

**Government targets will help to reduce levels of activities that damage the environment. An example would be reducing carbon dioxide emissions.**

**Limiting resource use will help as it will mean less waste is produced and sent to landfill. Examples would be recycling and reusing.**

