

# Biosphere Interactions

A biosphere is a system made up of all living things and the environment in which they live. It includes the air, land, water, and all other ecosystems that interact with each other to create a balance.

Living things interact with each other and the environment in many ways. Plants and animals depend on each other for food and shelter. Plants take in carbon dioxide from the air and use the energy from the sun to make food through photosynthesis. This food helps animals to grow and survive. In turn, animals spread the seeds of plants, help them to grow, and provide them with nutrients through their waste.

Living things also interact with the non-living environment. Animals and plants need air, water, and soil to survive. Air is needed to breathe. Water helps to keep plants and animals hydrated. Soil provides support and nutrients to plants, which in turn provide food and oxygen for animals.

Living things also interact with each other in many ways. Predators hunt their prey and scavengers feed on dead animals and plants. Parasites live off other organisms. Bacteria and fungi break down dead organisms and release nutrients back into the environment. Bees help pollinate flowers and the flowers provide the bees with food.

Living things also interact with each other in competition. When two living things need the same resource, they compete for it. This can be seen in the animal kingdom when two animals compete for food or territory. Plants also compete for resources like sun and water.

Humans interact with the biosphere through activities such as farming, hunting, fishing, and logging. These activities can have both positive and negative impacts on the environment, so it is important to be aware of the effects of our actions.

All of these interactions are important for the health of the biosphere. They create a balance that helps to keep the environment stable and healthy. Without these interactions, the biosphere would not be able to sustain life.

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## Questions:

1. List and describe in your own words 3 interactions that occur in the Biosphere.
2. What kinds of evidence of interactions can you see where you live?
3. Explain whether you think man's interactions are negative or positive and provide reasons.