

Biodiversity and Sampling

Species:

- A group of organisms,
- Similar in shape, physiology, biochemistry and behavior
- That can interbreed to produce fertile offspring

Habitat

- The place where an organism lives

Biodiversity

- The number and variety of living things
- Including the variety within a species and a variety within a habitat
- Living in habitats and ecosystems

Why is it difficult to estimate global biodiversity?

- Some organisms are small and microscopic so haven't been found yet
- Due to evolution and speciation, new organisms are being produced
- Many species are endangered and becoming extinct
- Many species are difficult to distinguish between

Preview from Notesale.co.uk
Page 1 of 4

Measuring biodiversity

Species richness: The number of species found in a habitat

Species evenness: The abundance of individuals in each species

To measure:

Species richness:

- Use qualitative data (descriptions)
- Sample and observe the number of species

Species evenness:

- Use quantitative data (numbers)
- e.g. using sampling with quadrats or capturing animals