

Primate Biology and Conservation

Biogeography

Intro

Biogeography is the distribution of biodiversity in space and time, it is where organisms live and at what abundance.

Distribution-Abundance Relationship

This is the relationship between the geographical range and the species density

- A larger geographical range = a higher species density
- A smaller geographical range = lower species density so the threats of habitat destruction are huge.

Range size and geographical location

Ranges are smaller near the equator so there is more species diversity and density

Biogeographical barriers

These impede on the range size of species and include

- Rivers
- Mountains
- Oceans

Dispersal

It is difficult to study the distance an individual can travel, though we can use tracking devices, we can also use genetics to look at dispersal

Link to conservation

We can use biogeography to look at which species need conservation and which will need it in the future.

Sociality

Intro

Most of the benefits of sociality can be gained through aggregation and not necessarily social groups.

benefits	drawbacks
Mobbing predators	Conspicuousness
Cooperation for resource defence	Competition for food and mates
Increased foraging through shared information	Increased disease transmission
Social learning	
Care of young	
Quality and availability of mates	

Social bonds

Social bonds can be useful to :

- Regulate competition and aggression
- Establish cooperation
- Ensure offspring survival
- Ensure access to resources
- Improve health (decrease stress)

There are many types of social bond:

- Pair bond (mates)
- Mother-offspring bond
- "Friends" – kin, non-kin, same sex, opposite sex
- "Enemies" – are these real or are they just human concepts?

Social bonds can be difficult to measure in those without language

Social grooming

Social grooming has many functions not just hygiene