

18 Hierarchy and biodiversity – Part 2

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary

Write each word three times.

English	Write it 3 times (English)
taxonomic hierar-	
chy	_____
kingdom	_____

Biodiversity	

ecosystem	_____

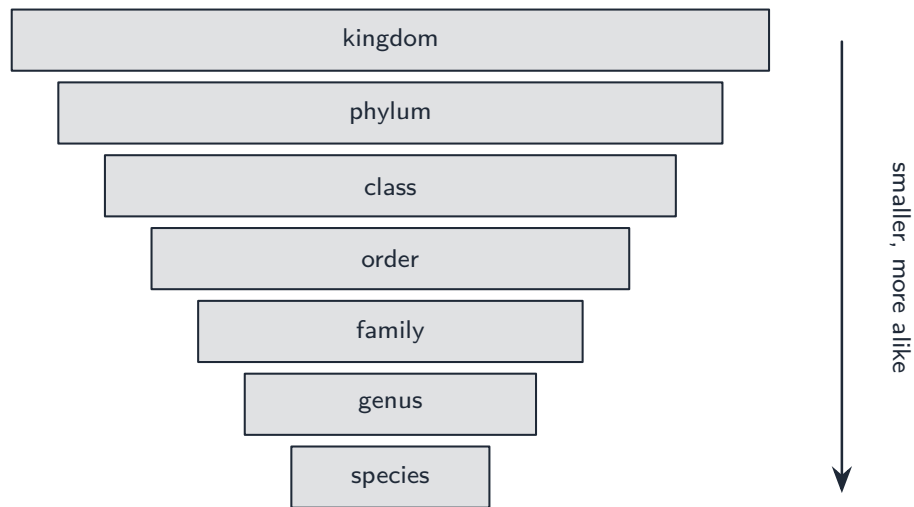
Recall

Inside a domain, organisms are sorted into smaller and smaller groups, ending at a single species.

New ideas

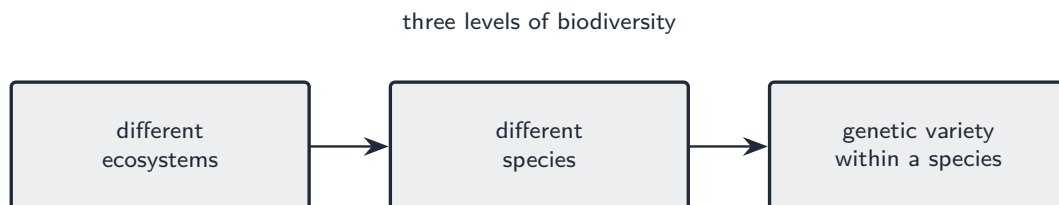
Read these first, then do the Practice.

■ 1 The taxonomic hierarchy



The **taxonomic hierarchy** runs: **kingdom** , phylum, class, order, family, genus, species. Each level is a smaller, more closely related group.

■ 2 Biodiversity



Biodiversity is the variety of life. An **ecosystem** is all the living things in an area plus their surroundings. Biodiversity is measured at three levels: ecosystems, species, and genes.

Watch out: the hierarchy runs kingdom → phylum → class → order → family → genus → species – each level smaller and more closely related. Biodiversity is measured at *three* levels: ecosystems, species and genes.

Practice

Try these in order.

18.6 What is the first (largest) level of the *taxonomic hierarchy*?

[1]

18.7 What is the last (smallest) level? [1]

18.8 What does *biodiversity* mean? [1]

18.9 What is an *ecosystem*? [1]

18.10 Name the three levels at which biodiversity is measured. [3]

18.11 Challenge. A forest with 50 species and a field with 5 species are both "full of life". Explain why the forest has higher *species* biodiversity, and why *genetic* diversity also matters. [2]
