

# What is Biodiversity? : ESR : Year 3/4

	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
<b>Lesson 1</b>	To understand what biodiversity is and why it is important	In this first lesson, children will learn what biodiversity is, and how important it is not only for plants and animals, but for humans too. They will explore the biodiversity of one of the largest ecosystems in the world - the coral reef. In their independent activities, children will create their own coral reef, and then complete sentences or answer questions about it. In the alternative activity, children will explore the symbiotic relationships of the plants and animals of the coral reef.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can children explain what biodiversity is?</li> <li>• Do children understand the importance of biodiversity?</li> <li>• Can children use the example of a coral reef ecosystem to talk about biodiversity?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slides</li> <li>• Worksheet 1A/1B/1C</li> <li>• Coral Reef Cut-outs Sheets</li> <li>• Reef Relationships Information Sheet (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>• Who Helps Who? Sheet (FSD? activity only)</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 2</b>	To know what extinction is and how this affects biodiversity	In this lesson, children will focus on rainforests, and will begin to learn about this ecosystem by exploring some simple food chains that can be found there. They will find out what extinction is, and how this is a threat to the biodiversity of the rainforest by exploring its possible effect on food chains. In their independent activities, children will further explore and discuss the effect of extinction on different plants and animals. In the FSD? activity, they will focus on deforestation as one of the causes of extinction, and create posters or write letters to raise awareness of the effect this is having on the biodiversity of the rainforest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do children understand that plants and animals rely on each other for survival?</li> <li>• Can children explain what extinction means?</li> <li>• Are children beginning to understand what low biodiversity is, and how it could affect humans?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slides</li> <li>• Food Chain Strips &amp; Extinction Cards</li> <li>• Worksheet 2A/B</li> <li>• Deforestation Information Sheet (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>• Worksheet 2C/2D (FSD? activity only)</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 3</b>	To understand the important role birds play in biodiversity	Children will find out about the important role birds play in many of the world's ecosystems. They will be encouraged to think about what the world would be like without birds. They will discover that the bird population is declining, and will talk about some small ways in which they could help the birds that visit their garden. In their independent activities, children will design and make a bird feeder. Alternatively, children will be challenged to write a poem, story, song, play or presentation, or create a poster or piece of artwork, which demonstrates the importance of birds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can children explain why birds are important to us?</li> <li>• Can children explain what would happen if there were no birds?</li> <li>• Do children know how we can protect birds?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slides</li> <li>• Bird Feeder Ideas Sheet</li> <li>• Worksheet 3A/3B/3C</li> <li>• Variety of materials for making bird feeders</li> <li>• Bird seed</li> <li>• Challenge Cards (FSD? activity only)</li> </ul>