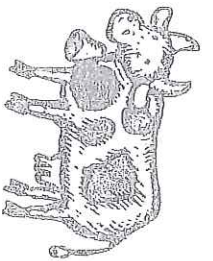


Bunny Bits and Bytes



Read the following examples of symbiotic relationships. Next to each example, write down whether the relationship could be described as parasitism, mutualism or commensalism.

1. Barnacles are inactive crustaceans that must attach themselves permanently to another object, such as rocks, shells, or whales. When they attach to the shell of a scallop, the scallop seems to not even notice they are there.

2. A small mouse that lives in the forests of Costa Rica carries as many as a dozen beetles in its fur. The beetles eat the fleas that infest the mouse.

3. Many species of cuckoo birds do not build nests of their own but rather deposit their eggs in nests of other species and abandon them there. The other bird behaves as a "babysitter" as they raise the young as their own. If the "babysitter" removes the cuckoo's eggs, some cuckoos will return and attack the nest.

4. Humans also engage in symbiosis with other species, including their gut flora (without which they would not be able to digest food efficiently) and domesticated animals such as horses, which provide transportation in return for food and shelter.

5. The cattle egret hunts in fields among cattle and horses, feeding on insects stirred up by the grazing animals. Lucky for the cattle egret, the cattle and horses hardly even notice they are around.



NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Ecological Relationships

Interacting Species Pair	Ecological Relationship Prediction (predation, competition, commensalism, mutualism, parasitism)	Actual Ecological Relationship (name and describe)
Clip 1: Tiger Shark/ Loggerhead Turtle		
Clip 2: Shark/Jack		
Clip 2: Shark/Mackerel		
Clip 2: Shark/Shark Suckerfish		
Clip 2: Hammerhead Shark/Barberfish		
Clip 3: Shark/Fishermen		

thirteen
NET NEW YORK

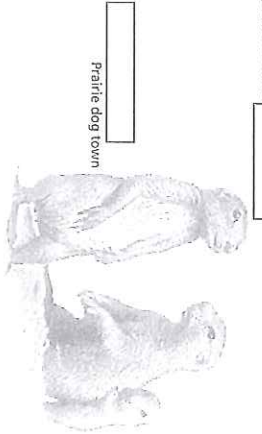
Learn more at www.pbs.org/nature.

Ecological Organization

The smallest level of organization is the
The largest is the entire



Prairie dog



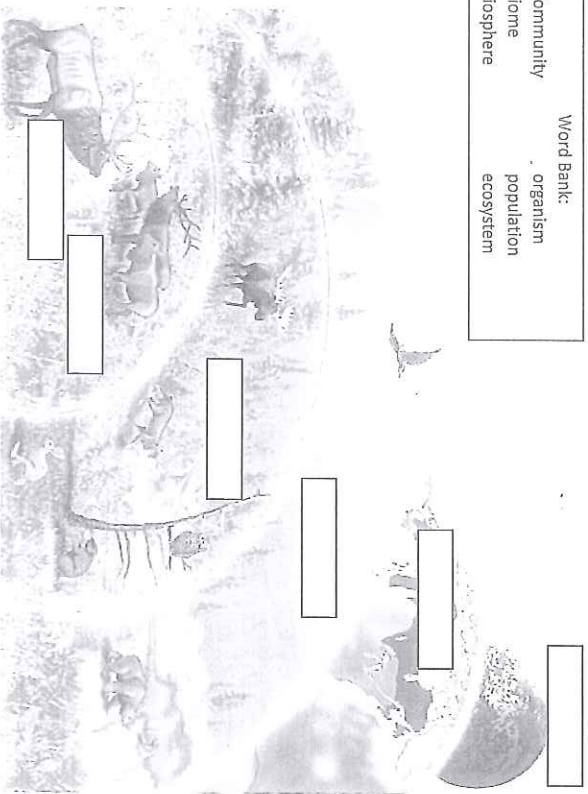
Prairie dog town

All the living things
that interact on the prairie



All the living and nonliving
things that interact on the prairie

Word Bank:
Community
Biome
Biosphere
organism
population
ecosystem



Name:

Ecosystem Organization Pyramid

ORGANISM:

POPULATION:

COMMUNITY:

ECOSYSTEM:

BIOME:

BIOSPHERE:

