

Aim: What is a Niche?

11/4/09

Do Now: Use the correct word to describe the relationship:

1. A wasp lays its eggs on a caterpillar
2. A bee that gets nectar/ leaves pollen on a flower
3. A clown fish that lives with an anemone

Parasitic

Test Friday!



mutualism



Wear short sleeves / old clothes

Example:

Darwin's Finches- beaks are all slightly different from island to island in the Galapagos. Beaks are adapted to the food sources available to them



24) Role of Bees

Niche- the environment in which a species lives and the roles it plays in its community

Fundamental Niche- the entire range of conditions in which a species can survive

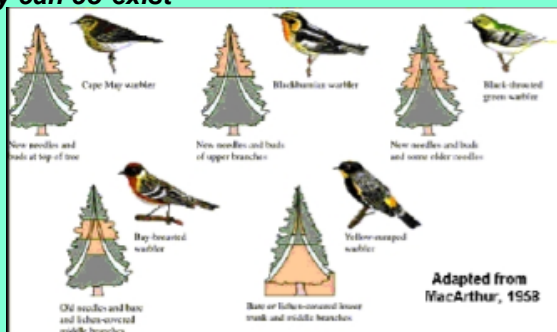
Realized Niche- the niche that a species actually occupies, usually due to competition

The abiotic or physical environment is also part of the niche it influences how populations affect, and are affected by, resources and enemies. The description of a niche may include descriptions of the organism's life history, habitat, and place in the food chain.

Competition

- Generally two organisms cannot occupy the same niche, they are in competition for the same resources
- **Competitive Exclusion**- when one species eliminates another through competition
- Species w/ similar niches can coexist by having slightly different realized niches

Ex: Three types of warblers live in pine trees but get food & build nests at different levels. They can co-exist



Keystone Species: a single species w/ a relatively small population affects the survival of many other species. If this species disappears an ecosystem becomes unstable