Wednesday, Oct 27 Symbiosis Speed Dating Activity

Welcome to symbiosis speed dating!! You are a cactus wren, looking for a good match. Your character card is to the right. Read about your characteristics then fill in the questions below.

Now look for your perfect match. Look at each organism below. Read their character card and then fill out the date card next to it to see if it would be a good match for you.

CACTUS WREN



Eats: insects, small lizards, and sometimes fruit and seeds

Adaptations: builds nest in cactus spines, has scaly legs to protect from spines

Needs: cactus, food source

Can Provide: can eat pesky insects

Pre Date Questions:

1. Define mutualism. _____
2. Define commensalism. _____
3. Define parasitism. _____
4. Which organism were you assigned? _____
5. What can you provide to your date? _____
   _____
6. What are you looking for in your date? _____
   _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TICK



Eats: blood of host organism

Adaptations: uses teeth to latch on to host organism

Needs: host organism (can only survive a few days without a host)

Can Provide: food source for animals that eat insects

Date #1 Organism: _____

Can this organism provide me anything beneficial? If so, explain.

_____

_____

Can this organism harm me in any way? If so, explain.

_____

_____

I think our relationship would be (check one)

☐ MUTUALISIC ☐ COMMENSALISTIC ☐ PARASITIC ☐ COMPETITIVE ☐ PREDATORY ☐ NONE

because _____

_____

COYOTE



Eats: fruit, berries, birds, rabbits, rodents

Adaptations: has a varied diet, good hunter, camouflage

Needs: place to build a den, food source

Can Provide: poop out seeds for dispersal

Date #2 Organism: _____

Can this organism provide me anything beneficial? If so, explain.

_____

_____

Can this organism harm me in any way? If so, explain.

_____

_____

I think our relationship would be (check one)

☐ MUTUALISIC ☐ COMMENSALISTIC ☐ PARASITIC ☐ COMPETITIVE ☐ PREDATORY ☐ NONE

because _____

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

WOODPECKER



Eats: insects, cactus fruit and berries

Adaptations: uses beak to chisel into trees and cactus to find food and build a habitat

Needs: food source, trees for habitat

Can Provide: can leave holes behind as habitats for other animals

Date #3 Organism: _____

Can this organism provide me anything beneficial? If so, explain.

_____

_____

Can this organism harm me in any way? If so, explain.

_____

_____

I think our relationship would be (check one)

☐ MUTUALISIC ☐ COMMENSALISTIC ☐ PARASITIC ☐ COMPETITIVE ☐ PREDATORY ☐ NONE

because _____

_____

DESERT TOAD



Eats: insects, spiders, small rodents

Adaptations: live most of year underground in rodent burrows if water isn't available

Needs: food source, water source

Can Provide: keeps insect populations in check

Date #4 Organism: _____

Can this organism provide me anything beneficial? If so, explain.

_____

_____

Can this organism harm me in any way? If so, explain.

_____

_____

I think our relationship would be (check one)

☐ MUTUALISIC ☐ COMMENSALISTIC ☐ PARASITIC ☐ COMPETITIVE ☐ PREDATORY ☐ NONE

because _____

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

CACTUS



Eats: sunlight, water, CO_2 (photosynthesis)

Adaptations: spines for protection, grows colorful fruits to attract pollinators

Needs: sunlight, water, soil, CO_2

Can Provide: protection for small animal habitats, food source (fruit)

Date #5 Organism: _____

Can this organism provide me anything beneficial? If so, explain.

_____

_____

Can this organism harm me in any way? If so, explain.

_____

_____

I think our relationship would be (check one)

☐ MUTUALISIC ☐ COMMENSALISTIC ☐ PARASITIC ☐ COMPETITIVE ☐ PREDATORY ☐ NONE

because _____

_____

BEE



Eats: nectar from flowers

Adaptations: feeds and breeds quickly, sting for protection

Needs: flower nectar, a place to build a hive

Can Provide: carries pollen from plant to plant

Date #5 Organism: _____

Can this organism provide me anything beneficial? If so, explain.

_____

_____

Can this organism harm me in any way? If so, explain.

_____

_____

I think our relationship would be (check one)

☐ MUTUALISIC ☐ COMMENSALISTIC ☐ PARASITIC ☐ COMPETITIVE ☐ PREDATORY ☐ NONE

because _____

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

LIZARD



Eats: crickets, beetles, bird eggs

Adaptations: uses sun and shade to thermo regulate

Needs: food source, burrow or shade to cool down body temperature

Can Provide: keep insect populations in check

Date #5 Organism: _____

Can this organism provide me anything beneficial? If so, explain.

_____

_____

Can this organism harm me in any way? If so, explain.

_____

_____

I think our relationship would be (check one)

☐ MUTUALISIC ☐ COMMENSALISTIC ☐ PARASITIC ☐ COMPETITIVE ☐ PREDATORY ☐ NONE

because _____

_____

RAT



Eats: cactus, bark, berries, nuts, seeds

Adaptations: good camouflage, burrows for protection

Needs: food source, place to burrow

Can Provide: can leave holes behind as habitats for other animals

Date #5 Organism: _____

Can this organism provide me anything beneficial? If so, explain.

_____

_____

Can this organism harm me in any way? If so, explain.

_____

_____

I think our relationship would be (check one)

☐ MUTUALISIC ☐ COMMENSALISTIC ☐ PARASITIC ☐ COMPETITIVE ☐ PREDATORY ☐ NONE

because _____

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

MISTLETOE



Eats: sunlight, water, CO_2 (photosynthesis)

Adaptations: grows roots into host tree branches to steal water and nutrients

Needs: sunlight, water from host plant, CO_2

Can Provide: food source (berries)

Date #5 Organism: _____

Can this organism provide me anything beneficial? If so, explain.

_____

_____

Can this organism harm me in any way? If so, explain.

_____

_____

I think our relationship would be (check one)

☐ MUTUALISIC ☐ COMMENSALISTIC ☐ PARASITIC ☐ COMPETITIVE ☐ PREDATORY ☐ NONE

because _____

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS