

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? \_\_\_\_\_

## 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)

MUTUALISTIC  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)

MUTUALISTIC  COMMENSALISTIC  PARASITIC  COMPETITIVE  PREDATORY  NONE

because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 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)

MUTUALISTIC  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)

MUTUALISTIC  COMMENSALISTIC  PARASITIC  COMPETITIVE  PREDATORY  NONE

because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## CACTUS



**Eats:** sunlight, water, CO<sub>2</sub> (photosynthesis)

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

**Needs:** sunlight, water, soil, CO<sub>2</sub>

**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)

MUTUALISTIC  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)

MUTUALISTIC  COMMENSALISTIC  PARASITIC  COMPETITIVE  PREDATORY  NONE

because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 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)

MUTUALISTIC  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)

MUTUALISTIC  COMMENSALISTIC  PARASITIC  COMPETITIVE  PREDATORY  NONE

because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## MISTLETOE



**Eats:** sunlight, water, CO<sub>2</sub> (photosynthesis)

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

**Needs:** sunlight, water from host plant, CO<sub>2</sub>

**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)

MUTUALISTIC    COMMENSALISTIC    PARASITIC    COMPETITIVE    PREDATORY    NONE

because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_