

Nature's Diplomacy: Animal and Environmental Facts

Diplomacy · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. What is the primary function of a bee's waggle dance?

- A) To warn other bees of predators
- B) To communicate the location of food sources**
- C) To signal the need for a new queen
- D) To indicate the health of the hive

2. How do meerkats typically cooperate to ensure the safety of their group?

- A) They form defensive alliances with other animal species
- B) They take turns acting as sentinels, watching for danger**
- C) They share food resources with competing meerkat groups
- D) They communicate through synchronized vocalizations to scare predators

3. What natural process allows trees in a forest to share nutrients and water through a fungal network?

- A) Photosynthesis
- B) Mycorrhizal networks**
- C) Root grafting
- D) Seed dispersal

4. Which marine mammal species are known for their complex songs that can travel vast distances underwater?

- A) Dolphins
- B) Orcas
- C) Humpback whales**
- D) Seals

5. How do many plants, like certain orchids and figs, rely on specific insects for their reproduction?

- A) The insects consume the plants, promoting growth
- B) The insects are attracted by deceptive mimicry to pollinate them**
- C) The insects provide essential nutrients directly to the plant roots
- D) The insects create protective shells around the plant seeds

6. What is the primary benefit of symbiosis for the clownfish in an anemone?

- A) The clownfish fertilizes the anemone's soil
- B) The anemone provides protection from predators for the clownfish**
- C) The clownfish cleans debris from the anemone's tentacles
- D) The anemone shares its captured prey with the clownfish

7. What role do dung beetles play in many ecosystems?

- A) They are primary producers, creating their own food
- B) They are decomposers, recycling nutrients from animal waste**
- C) They are predators, hunting small invertebrates
- D) They are pollinators, transferring pollen between flowers

8. How do some birds, like the oxpecker, interact with large mammals such as rhinos?

- A) They warn the mammals of approaching predators
- B) They remove parasites from the mammals' skin**
- C) They guide the mammals to new water sources
- D) They help the mammals digest their food

9. What is a key characteristic of mutualistic relationships in nature?

- A) One organism benefits while the other is harmed
- B) One organism benefits while the other is unaffected
- C) Both organisms involved benefit from the interaction**
- D) One organism exploits the other for resources

10. What is the purpose of migration for many bird species?

- A) To establish new territories permanently
- B) To find more abundant food sources and favorable breeding conditions**
- C) To escape predators in their native habitat
- D) To seek out warmer climates for hibernation

11. How do corals and the algae living within them (zooxanthellae) benefit each other?

- A) The algae provide the coral with calcium carbonate for its skeleton
- B) The coral provides the algae with shelter and nutrients (like CO₂)**
- C) The algae produce toxins that protect the coral from predators
- D) The coral digests the algae for energy

12. What is a common strategy used by plants to ensure their seeds are dispersed to new locations?

- A) They actively throw their seeds away from the parent plant
- B) They rely on animals to eat their fruits and excrete the seeds**
- C) They release spores that drift on the wind
- D) They store seeds underground for future germination