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Image by Amy Humphries, Unsplash.

UAMN Virtual Early Explorers: Amazing Earth

Explore Around the World: Printable Map

The variety of living things in a place is called **biodiversity**. Since species work together to survive and maintain their environments, areas with a high biodiversity are usually more stable and healthier. Protecting and encouraging biodiversity is important to keeping the planet healthy.

Boreal forest in Alaska. Image: National Park Service.



Tardigrade. Image: Diane Nelson, NPS

, including volcanic vents deep in the ocean, dry deserts, cold ice sheets, dark acidic caves, and many more. Each of these living things have adaptations to help them survive in their environment.

www.amnh.org/explore/ology/biodiversity

Over thousands of years, people developed different customs, beliefs, food, language, clothing, tools, music, arts, and more. All these things together form a group's **culture**. Certain parts of culture are universal: people all over the world do things like make art, tell stories, cook food, play games, and raise children. However, each culture does these things in different ways.

Cama-i Dance Festival, Bethel: camai.org

We might speak different languages, wear different clothes, live in different kinds of houses, and eat different food. Our differences make us unique. Learning about other cultures helps us understand multiple perspectives and ways of living, both around the world and within our own communities.

www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-to-teach-children-about-culturalawareness-and-diversity