

# Human Activity Affects Biological Diversity

## Reduction of Biodiversity

### Abundance of Species

- Depending on the location of an ecosystem, there are MANY different types of plants, animals, insects etc that inhabit each ecosystem
- All of the organisms live together in a "community" and when the diversity of organisms are reduced, the other organisms are effected
- Harsher environments have relatively fewer species compared to temperate or tropical environments, making the community more vulnerable to changes in the ecosystem.

Rick and Polar Bears

How can biodiversity be reduced?

Urbanization - as cities + towns grow we use more land, the natural organisms have less space  
eg Cold Lake is expanding out, big space in middle we should use first

Changes in environment -

As the environment warms, polar bears have less ice to hunt on, they are moving into Churchill

Why does this matter to us?

Economy -

cost us money to deal with bears in towns

eg Churchill or Cold Lake

Ecosystems -

an ecosystem relies on all the pieces to survive.

If one part falls apart the whole system will crumble.

eg less ice, seals have less place to lay down, bears start to starve.

Give it a Try - Choices in Our World pg 57

Read Scenario Number 1.

With a partner discuss the following questions.

What will be the effects of the changes to the environment and to the organisms that live there?

What choices will need to be made? Why?

Could any of the changes be avoided? How?

Repeat with Scenario Number 2.