



## Symbiotic Concentration Game

Symbiosis is a close and often long-term interaction between different biological species. In this activity, interactions are all mutualistic, where both organisms benefit from the relationship.

**Objective:** Be the player to get the most pairs of symbiotic relationships.

**Players:** 2-4

**Set Up:** Cut out the cards below. They can be mounted on construction paper or card stock for better durability.

**Rules:** Place all cards face down and mix them up. You should not know the order of the cards. Place them in a few straight rows, still face down. The youngest player goes first. Players take turns flipping over two cards at a time. Read the animal's description and try to find a friend that will meet their needs. If you find two animals that don't match, turn them back over. Remember where they are, you might need to find them again! If you find a match, remove the pair and keep them in a pile. Play continues until all the cards have been paired together. Pay attention to what the other players flip over to help you locate all cards. The player with the most pairs wins!

**Variations:** pair up students, and have them create a pair of cards to create a class set using the blank card as a template. Try to include pairs representing parasitism and commensalism!



# BEATY BIODIVERSITY MUSEUM



**African crocodile**

I need someone to help me pick tiny bits of meat from my teeth so they don't become infected!



**Small blackbird plover**

Will work for food! I am small and can reach into tiny spaces with my beak!



**Zebra**

I have a very good sense of smell and hearing but I can't see very well! I am looking for someone who can help me see danger!



**Ostrich**

I have great eyesight but I can't smell or hear very much! I need someone who can help me stay out of danger's way!



**Honeyguide**

Need help finding honey? I'm great at it but I'm afraid of bee stings. I need someone braver than me to help me break open the bee nest!



**Ratel**

I'm big and strong and have a coat of fur that is safe from bee stings! I love honey but I have trouble finding the bee nests. Looking for help!



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**Clownfish**

I am looking for a safe place to live. I can offer protection and I love to clean up parasites!



**Sea anemone**

I can provide a safe home to someone who can protect me from predators! I am willing to share the scraps from my left over meals if you can clean the parasites off me!



**Southern rufous woodpecker**

Looking for a place to lay my eggs. I can offer protection for you from other birds!



**Black tree ant**

I need someone to look after my eggs! I can offer a home to your eggs if you can offer me protection!



**Egret**

I love to eat parasites and also am really good at sensing environmental predators and other dangers! I need a ride!



**Elephant**

I'm big and strong but I have a bad case of parasites on my back. Looking for someone to help relieve my pain! Can offer a free ride to anyone who helps!



# BEATY BIODIVERSITY MUSEUM



**Meat ant**

I usually feed on dead animals but I also love feeding on sugary sap! I can provide protection from other animals!



**Leafhoppers**

I need someone to protect me from other predators. I can offer you the sweet sugary sap that I secrete!



**Name of Organism**

Description