

The background features a gradient from dark blue on the left to light blue/white on the right, with several bright, diagonal, glowing lines crossing the space.

How Competition Shapes Communities

Competition

- Orgs of the same or different species attempt to use the same resource
 - Resource: water, nutrients, light, food, or space
- Direct results of relationship between niche and habitat

fundamental niche

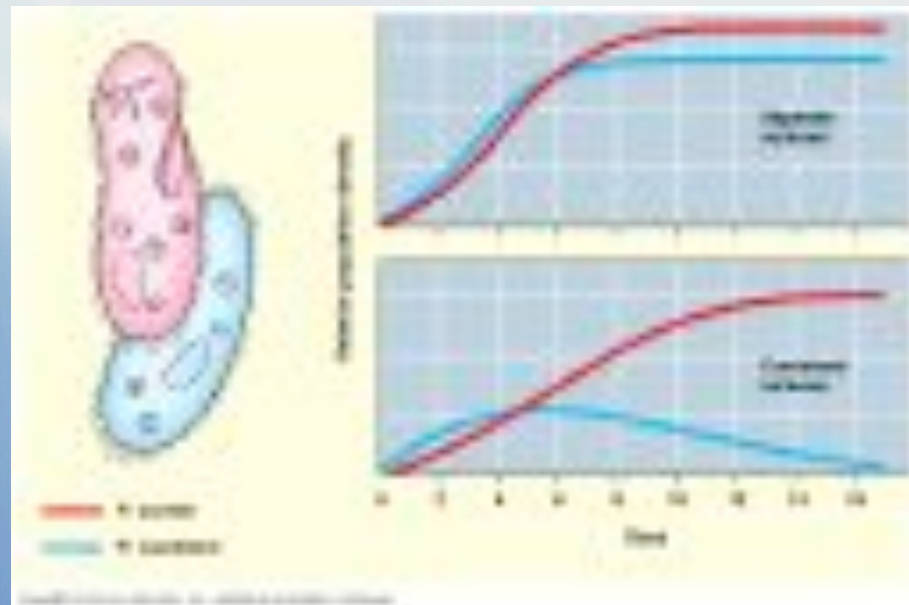
- Entire range of resource opportunities an organisms is potentially able to occupy within an ecosystem is it

Realized niche

- Actual part of organisms niche that a species occupies

Competition Without division of Resources

- Direct competition result in a winner and loser
 - Loser fails to survive
 - Competitive exclusion principle



Predation and competition

- Predation reduces the effects of competition
- Also promotes biodiversity
 - Number of diff species in a community
 - Relative numbers of each species
- Studies found that more species found in an area, the more plant material produced