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Symbiosis and Coevolution

- A relationship in which two organisms live in close association is called **symbiosis**
- Symbiosis is often used to describe at least one species benefiting from another
 - Over time, species may coevolve
 - They develop adaptations that reduce the harm or improve the benefit of the relationship







- 3 types
- 1) Parasitism
- 2) Mutualism
- 3) Commensalism

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*Parasitism

An organism that lives on or in another organism and feeds on the other organism is a **parasite**

The organism that provides the nourishment is the host

• Ex. Ticks, fleas, tapeworms sea-lice



Uploaded on Apr 27, 2009A parasitic wasp has injected her eggs into a caterpillar -- and now they're ready to hatch.

Jonathon Smith (2013)





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Mutualism



- A close relationship between two species in which each species provides a benefit to the other
 - Ex. Humans and certain types of bacteria in the intestines
 - Humans are better able to digest food and bacteria have a place to live









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*Commensalism



- A relationship in which one species benefits and the other species is neither harmed nor helped
 - Ex. Sharks and remoras
 - Sharks are unharmed and fish are able to eat what the shark doesn't







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