

SECTION
14.1

HABITAT AND NICHE
Power Notes

Habitat:

All the biotic and abiotic factors in the area where an organism lives

Ecological Niche:

All of the physical, chemical, and biological factors that a species needs to survive.

Competitive Exclusion is a principle that states:

When two species are competing for the same resources, one species will be better adapted to the niche, and the other will be pushed into another niche or go extinct

Two other results of competitive exclusion:

- **Niche Partitioning** - Two squirrel species (one eats nuts on the ground, one eats nuts at the top of the tree).
- **Evolutionary Response**—Divergent Evolution - (Large teeth/large nuts & small teeth/small nuts)

An Ecological Equivalent is:

Species that occupy similar niches but live in different geographical regions - they are subjected to similar pressures and therefore have similar niches (an African Frog and a South American Frog)