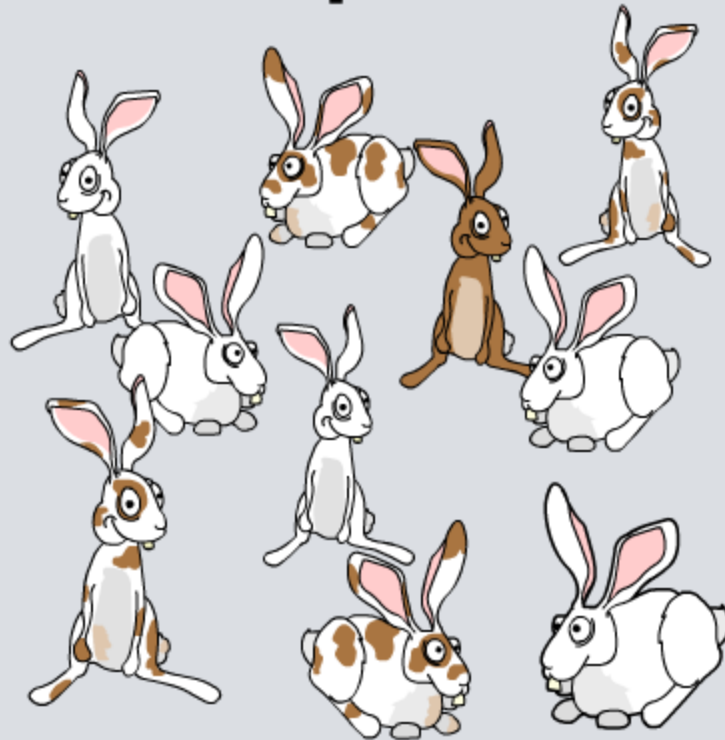
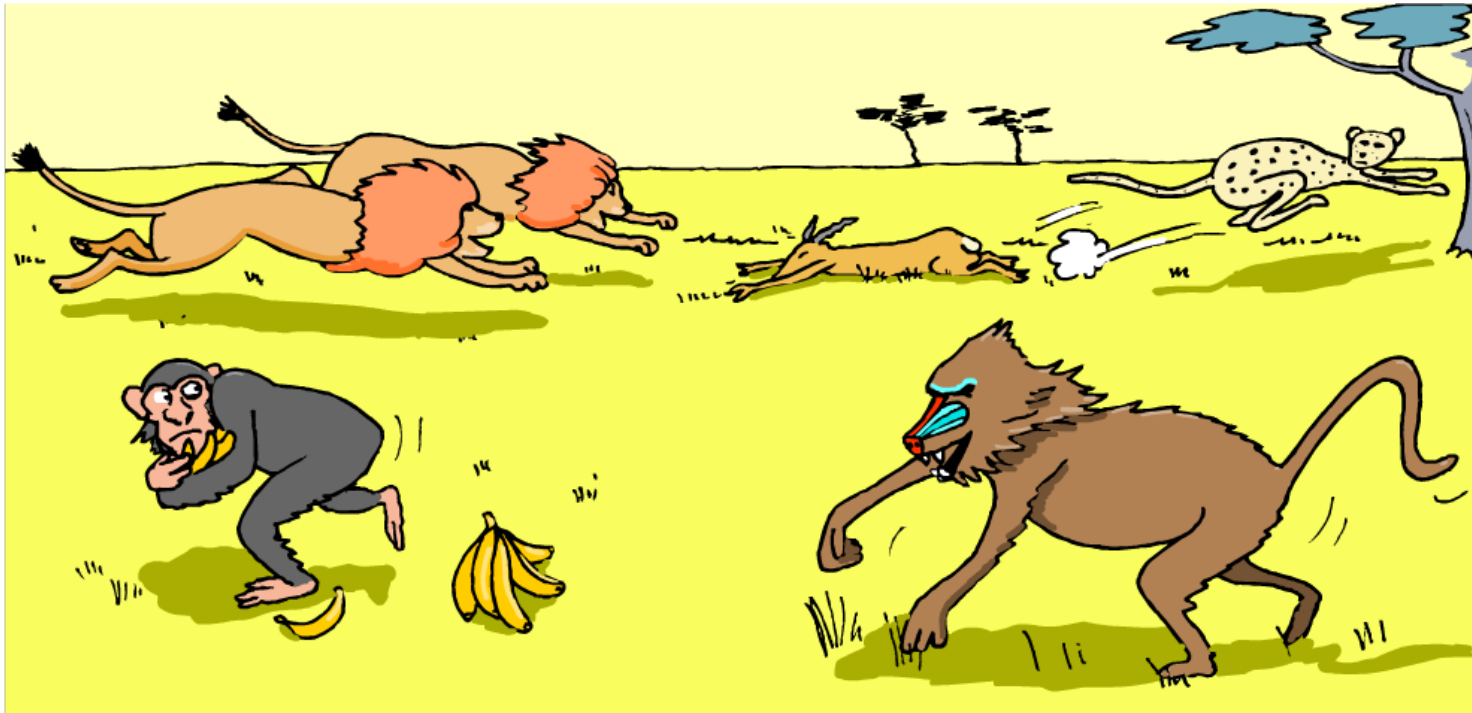


# Competition



# What is competition?

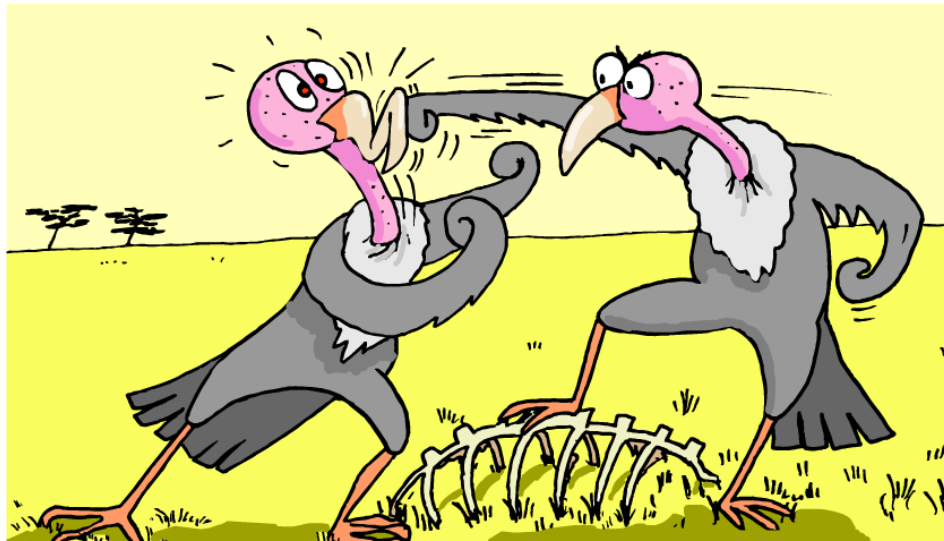
All living things need natural resources, but the problem is that there is not enough for everyone. This means that individuals have to fight for them in order to survive.



This struggle for resources is called **competition**.

# Who competes?

Competition occurs between members of different species. This is called **interspecific competition**.



Competition also occurs between members of the same species. This is called **intraspecific competition**.

# What do animals compete for?

There are four resources for which animals compete.  
What are they?

- food
- water
- mates
- land (territory)

Which resource is not relevant for **interspecific** competition?



Members of different species will not compete for mates.



# What do plants compete for?

Competition between plants may be less noticeable than competition between animals but it still takes place. What four things do **plants** compete for?

- light
- water
- minerals
- space



## Competition in the meadow

Growth of grass in a meadow is affected by light, water, shade and sheep.



Click "**start**" to investigate how competition between these four factors affects the meadow.

**start**



# Competition and population size

The size of a population varies due to factors such as disease, migration and predation.

Intraspecific competition generally has a **stabilizing effect** on a population. Why is this?

