

Ringworm and athlete's foot are fungal infections common to people. They feed on the skin.

Yucca Moth/Joshua Tree---The yucca (Joshua tree) is entirely dependent upon the yucca moth for pollination. The yucca moth utilizes the tree and lays its larvae on the seeds of the plant where they gain nourishment without adverse effects upon the plant.

Honey Guide Bird/Badger---The honey guide bird will "churr" and create a stir. "leading" the badger to the bee hive/nest. Once the badger stirs up the bees, the honey guide bird stops his racket and waits for the badger to eat his "share" of the honeycomb. Once the badger is finished, the honey guide bird will eat larvae and portions of the honeycomb.

Mistletoe sends its roots into the circulatory system of a tree branch to tap nutrients.

Pilot fish/Shark---- The pilot fish will swim in, around, and through the shark's mouth, with reservation, cleaning its teeth. This provides a food source and predator protection for the pilot fish. The pilot fish will also alert the shark to larger approaching predators.

Barnacle/Whale----The barnacle attaches to the whale, mostly for a home site, but with no degenerative effects. (Could be classified into two different relationships, however, the whale usually tries scrape the barnacle off.)

The tape worm feeds on the nutrients that pass through the guts of many mammals like horses, dogs, cats, and even humans.

In Central America the acacias grow as shrubs or small trees and have many small leaflets and large swollen thorns. Ants live inside the swollen thorns. They forage on nectar produced by nectar-producing organs on the twigs of the plant and on solid food on the tips of the leaves packaged in a special form. The ants thus pre-provided food and shelter by the acacia. In return, the ants "patrol" the acacia and attack any other insects or larger animals that attempt to feed on the acacia or any plant that begins to grow under or near the foliage of the acacia. Acacias that do not have ant colonies associated with them are destroyed by rodents and insects within 6 to 12 months or are shaded by competing plants and grow very slowly.

Gulls/Human---Gulls will follow humans or animals who disturb terrains' for insects (food).

Shrimp/Fish---Shrimp will clean fishes' teeth and gills. Fish are very cooperative most of the time, but will eat the shrimp or other "cleaner" fish.

Berry seeds pass through the guts of birds and pass out away from the parent plant. The animals obtain food, and the plants have their seeds dispersed.

House sparrows/Horses---Sparrows feed on the seeds located within horse droppings and other large herbivores.

Ant/Aphid---- The ant will co-habitate with the aphid and eat the honeydew that is excreted by the aphid. The ant will actually enslave and herd colonies of aphids for this benefit. Not all species of ants will herd aphids, however. The aphid benefits by the ants protective from other insects and predators.

Vulture/Lions, Leopards, Jackals---The vulture follows predators to clean up what they leave.

Squirrels and jays store acorns in the ground, some of which are never retrieved and become oaks.

Oxpecker/Rhinoceros---The oxpecker will ride along with the rhino and pick ticks off his back. This provides an easy lunch for the oxpecker and at the same time relieves the rhino of tick infestation.

Ostrich/Warthog--- While the ostrich has a keen sense of eyesight, the warthog has well-developed hearing and scent discrimination. Also, the warthog's feeding and rooting behavior allows for the opportunistic feeding habit of the ostrich to take advantage of food sources. The ostrich "tends on"/opportunistic, eats anything.

Ostrich/Gazelle---Although both animals have a keen sense of eyesight, the gazelle has a larger number of rods which account for perception of movement and discrimination in low-light conditions. The ostrich having a large numbers of cones, is able discriminate more clearly during normal daylight. Co-habitation of these species provides a safer environment.



Shark Sucker/Shark----Being a poor swimmer the sucker attaches its head to the shark and gets a free ride to the next shark victim. He then eats the remaining pieces.

Cuckoo & Cowbird/other tree nesting birds---- The cuckoo will lay a single egg next to eggs that have already been laid (from a different bird), then leave. The hen of the eggs in the nest will incubate all eggs. Unfortunately, the single cuckoo egg normally hatches first and the emerging chick's first act usually consists of pushing the yet un-hatched eggs out of the nest.

Nectar-feeding bats of the South American tropics are nocturnal, have a good sense of sight and smell, weak teeth, a long snout, and a long-prehensile tongue. The flowers upon which they feed open at night, are white in color, and emit an odor that attracts the bats. The bats lap up nectar, eat pollen, and in the process coat their face with hundreds of pollen grains, some of which are transferred to the next flower the bat visits.

Epiphytes, such as lichens, mosses, and bromeliads, grow on the trunks and branches of trees, where they receive more sunlight, water, and nutrients than if they grew along; the trees are not affected.

Cowbird/Buffalo---As the buffalo walks through the grass and heavy vegetation, insects, grubs, etc. are stirred up, providing an easy food source for the cowbird.

Ferocious-looking but harmless microscopic mites live in the eyebrows of all humans with no ill effects to the human.

Sloths & algae----The sloths of Central and South American rainforests are sluggish, herbivorous mammals that spend most of their time hanging from tree limbs in an upside-down posture. Because blue-green algae grow in grooves the sloths' hairs, the sloths blend in quite well with the foliage, thereby escaping easy detection by predators.

Lichens & alga---Lichens are an organism formed by the association of an alga and a fungus, neither of which could live alone. The alga produces food for the fungus and the fungus provide some protection against adverse conditions such as drought.

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Hermit Crab/Snail--- The hermit crab will live in the snail shell once the snail dies or leaves.

Fungi cause plant diseases such as potato blight, rust, and mildew.

Tarantulas and narrow-mouthed toads share an underground burrow. The tarantula defends the burrows, and thus the smaller toad, against predators. The toads have an appetite for ants, which are predator of spider eggs and spider-lings.

Damselfish/Sea Anemone---Damselfish will live or spend a great deal of time buried within the tentacles of the sea anemone. Several species of fish live within the tentacles, most of which are immune to the anemone's sting. This provides a substantial amount of protection from predators.

Some species of bees visit orchids to collect a fragrance from the flower that helps the bees find each other; the bees are thus able to form mating groups and the orchids are pollinated in the process.

Termites are incapable of digesting the cellulose that makes up their food source—wood. They have a protozoan that resides in their gut and produces an enzyme that digests the cellulose providing nutrition for the termite and the protozoan.

Gull/Brown Bear---During the spring salmon run, bears habitually gorge themselves on easily caught fish. Gulls will follow the bears and eat leftovers.

Tick/Dog---The presence of ticks are definitely at the expense of the dog's health.

Moth/Sloth---Several species of tree living moths will live in the fur of the sloth.

Egyptian Plover/Crocodile---The crocodile will open his mouth and the plover will enter and pick the leeches off his teeth.

Bee/Maribou Stork---The Maribou stork, being a carrion eater will use its saw-type beak to cut into dead animals. Once the stork has finished, bees will also eat on the dead flesh and lay eggs within the body cavity.