

Reproduction

Reproduction describes the rate of change in numbers of a physical object. The most immediate biological example is cell division, which can occur at rates that are predictable based on physical and chemical conditions (e.g., temperature). Sometimes, biological reproduction results in distinct morphologies such as that observed during different reproductive stages and modes, like binary fission or budding. Measurements of those morphologies would fall under the Structure category, despite their link to reproduction. This highlights the fact that the boundaries between LDMs are not always sharp, and that combinations of LDMs (i.e., change in numbers plus morphology) often increase their individual diagnostic power.