



# Biodiversity And Billy B.

## Lyrics Sheet

### Green Belt

(spoken) "Ah, the equatorial region."

#### CHORUS

*It's the green belt on this blue ball  
where it's always warm, warm, warm, warm.  
It's where most life has evolved  
and ice so rarely forms.*

*Long ago, the land mass separated  
into the continents we know today.  
That's when the Andes elevated,  
and all the rivers flowed the same way.*

#### CHORUS

*That's how the basin of the Amazon came to be.  
For 40 million years, it's been wet.  
Through the ice ages, there were islands of trees.  
Those islands haven't been dry yet.*

#### CHORUS

*And now all around the islands of the tropics,  
so many kinds of corals grow  
into the mighty reefs where so many fish mix.  
It's a many species multicolored show.*

#### CHORUS

### Biodiversity

*Bio-Bio-Biodiversity,  
all life living in this community.  
Bio-Bio-Biodiversity,  
spaces, species, and the family tree.  
Bio-Bio-Biodiversity,  
all around and inside you and me.*

### Cont. (Biodiversity)

*Bio-Bio-Biodiversity,  
so important to the world community.*

*I want, I want, I want whales in the oceans.  
I want rhinos living free.  
I want all forests growing.  
I want Biodiversity.*

*We need rain forest medicine.  
We need coral in the sea.  
We need flower pollination.  
We need Biodiversity.*

#### Right Now!

*It's a big world we discover,  
when we go out every day.  
All the life forms live together,  
interacting many ways.*

*Bees need flowers.  
Flowers need bees.  
That's pollinating power!  
fruit around seeds.*

#### CHORUS

*It's a forest we discover,  
when we're there among the trees.  
All the mushrooms and the beetles  
and the worms under the leaves.*

*In the oceans, fish swim and feed  
among the coral habitat they need.*

#### CHORUS



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## Lyrics Sheet

### Coral Reef

*In shallow waters of warm seas,  
corals live, each as big as a pea.  
Secreting limestone, round bodies so soft,  
attached to older corals, please don't break off.  
Inside their bodies they let algae live,  
getting food for the protection they give.  
Extended tentacles sting like harpoons,  
eating passing plankton, by the light of the moon,  
light of the moon, light of the moon.*

#### CHORUS

*Creatures go to the coral reef.  
Creatures grow on the coral reef.  
Creatures show coral's alive.  
Creatures go to the coral reef.  
Creatures grow on the coral reef.  
Creatures show coral's alive.*

*What makes coral yellow, green, or red?  
Without what would the coral be dead?  
ZOOXANTHELLAE, ZOOXANTHELLAE.  
ZOOXANTHELLAE, ZOOXANTHELLAE.*

*Amongst the coral, so many things hide?  
lobsters, crabs, snails, fish and octopi.  
They carefully search for their next meal  
avoiding the sharks, barracudas, and eels.  
Each creature must find food or die.  
So they move around and their predators try  
to catch them unaware, unprotected, exposed.  
On the coral reef that's how life and death goes.  
That's how it goes. That's how it goes.*

#### CHORUS

*What lives within coral in symbiosis?  
What provides food in daily doses?  
ZOOXANTHELLAE, ZOOXANTHELLAE.  
ZOOXANTHELLAE, ZOOXANTHELLAE.*

### The Rain Forest Chorus

*Oh it's the chorus, the Rain Forest Chorus,  
singing everywhere.*

*Frog croaks from a pool in the tree,  
advertising his own availability.  
He sings for a mate, if he's big or small,  
with a big bassy croak  
or a much higher call! he's singing*

*With a snake or an eagle,  
or a jaguar, too, a sharp-eyed monkey  
knows just what to do.  
She calls out to her family, her warning cry.  
She's caught the cagey hunters  
with her sharp monkey's eye.*

#### CHORUS

*Oh it's the chorus, the Rain Forest Chorus,  
singing everywhere.  
Oh it's the chorus, the Rain Forest Chorus,  
voices in the air.  
They're everywhere, on land, in the air,  
and filling every tree.  
Oh, it's the chorus, the Rain Forest Chorus,  
singing constantly.*

*Water moving up those great big trees!  
Water escaping from those great big leaves!  
The sun and heat will make it rise,  
as it condenses in those clear blue skies.  
And it rain, rain, rain, rain, rains.*

*All the birds sing right before dawn,  
claiming territory clear and strong.  
Too light for the owl. Too dark for the hawk.  
So the other birds feel safe to sing and squawk.  
They're singing.*

#### CHORUS



# Biodiversity And Billy B.

## Lyrics Sheet

### The Brazil Nut Song

*In the forest of rain, there's a tree with the name  
same as it's fruit, Brazil nut.*

*Fifteen or more of those nuts are stored  
inside a really tough husk.*

*Like cannonballs, the husks will fall,  
but no one calls "look out."*

*On the ground they will stay,  
because there is no way  
critters can get those nuts out.*

#### CHORUS

*And so goes the story of Brazil nut trees,  
and how they survive with the agouti.*

*Brazil nuts are buried by agoutis.*

*If nuts are forgotten, they sprout into trees.  
To get the job done, oh, there is just one?  
the rodent we call agouti.*

*With teeth they can trust,  
they can gnaw through the husk  
to get to the nuts, agouti.*

*When they get in the pod, they eat like a slob.  
But there's always too many Brazil nuts.*

*So, they'll bury the rest  
and get on with their quest,  
staying alive, agouti.*

#### CHORUS

*The tapir will come looking for some  
of the nuts the agouti has buried.*

*But tapirs know the jaguar could show,  
so the tapir stays wary.*

*Insects find what's left behind  
and eat the remains in a hurry.*

*From flower to seed, to each critter's needs,  
that's the Brazil nut story.*

#### CHORUS

### Epiphytes

*On the limbs of trees, on the trunk at every height,  
in the canopy, grow the epiphytes.*

*Roots hanging in the air, leaves competing for the sun,  
flowers blooming everywhere, critters pollinate each one.*

#### CHORUS

*Nutrients supplied by the dust blown on the wind.*

*Water rolling off of the bark, epiphytes will soak it in.  
Sprouting in the notches of the limbs both long and  
short,*

*epiphytes use the tree only for support,  
epiphytes use the tree only for support.*

*Epiphytes are plants, growing in the trees  
collecting pools of water, for whole communities.  
Birds, and butterflies, spiders, frogs, and snakes  
use the habitat epiphytes can make.*

#### CHORUS

### Squads of Arthropods

*Squads of arthropods,  
beautiful and odd,  
everywhere you trod.*

*Squads of arthropods  
on leaves and in dead logs.*

*Squads of arthropods,  
food for birds and frogs.*

*Squads of arthropods.*

*Crustaceans, arachnids,  
and all the insects too,  
crawl and fly, multiply.*

*Name one after you and you  
and you and you and you.*

*(continued next page)*



# Biodiversity And Billy B.

## Lyrics Sheet

### Cont. (Squads of Arthropods)

#### CHORUS

*Pollinate, propagate,  
many kinds of plants decompose,  
giving those plants more nutrients.  
Pollinate, propagate,  
many kinds of plants decompose,  
giving those plants more nutrients.*

#### CHORUS

*Millions of species,  
most unknown and undiscovered,  
in the canopies, on the ground undercover.  
Beetles and termites,  
spiders, ants, and scorpions,  
active both day and night  
all have exoskeletons.*

*Arthropods alive, make the forest thrive.*

### Arribada

#### CHORUS

*Out in every ocean, alive in every sea,  
turtles are a-swimming, so slow and gracefully.  
Here we all stand, looking out from the shore  
waiting for ARRIBADA.*

*Everyone's hoping, it will be like before  
and there'll be more ARRIBADA.*

*Break from the surf, crawl to the dunes?  
Kemp's Ridleys returning.  
Back where they hatched, laden with eggs.  
Soon there'll be new turtles learning.*

### Cont. (Arribada)

*Dig out that hole, lay in the brood  
on the beach of Rancho Nuevo.  
Cover the clutch, turn back to the waves.  
Will you return? We hope so.*

#### CHORUS

*Claw out of the eggs, dig up through the sand  
with your brothers and sisters struggling too.  
When the dawn comes,  
you'll all crawl towards the sun  
where the water and gulls await you.*

*If you make the sea, it's a hundred to one  
against your very survival.  
But back on the shore, we're all working for  
Kemp's Ridelys revival.*

#### CHORUS

### Worms

*Have you ever seen a leaf disappear into the ground?  
It was probably a worm pulling that leaf down.  
Because, when a worm needs something to munch,  
it drags a leaf down into its hole for lunch.  
A dead leaf for lunch.*

*What am I talking about? I'm talking about worms.*

*And when a worm gets done eating a leaf,  
like all animals, it poops for relief.  
Now talking about worm poop might sound rude.  
But worm poop is important plant food,  
important plant food.*

*(continued next page)*



# Biodiversity And Billy B.

## Lyrics Sheet

### Cont. (Worms)

*What am I talking about?  
I'm talking about worms.*

*And when it rains, the water runs  
down into the worm's hole.  
If he stays there, he'll drown.  
So the worms come out  
on the sidewalks and streets to breathe some air  
and get squished by feet (yeeech!),  
squished by feet.  
Watch those feet.*

*Let the worm dig his hole  
and keep the ground loose.  
It makes it really easy for all the plant's roots  
to get air and the food that the worm makes.  
Just don't step on the worms. That's all it takes.*

*What am I talking about?  
I'm talking about worms.*

### Top Soil

*Plants will grow in it; farmers make rows in it;  
ants go high and low in it. Healthy soil.  
Minerals store in it; beetles will bore in it;  
worms make more of it. Healthy soil.  
Put your fingers in it, and move them all around.*

*Pigs will wallow in it; worms will swallow in it;  
snakes will follow in it. Healthy soil.  
Farmers till with it; termites build with it;  
forests are filled with it. Healthy soil.  
Put your toes right in it, and move them all  
around.*

### Cont. (Top Soil)

*CHORUS*

*Soil, topsoil, in it so many things thrive.  
Soil, topsoil, if it's healthy, it's alive.  
Soil lives. Soil gives. Soil is what life's built on.  
Big wind blows. Rainwater flows.  
Erosion shows when the soil's gone.  
To build it back takes too long.*

*Spring tails spring on it; little birds sing on it;  
kids flop and fling on it. Healthy soil.  
Moles make tunnels in it; spiders make funnels in it;  
roots make bundles in it. Healthy soil.  
Put your face right in it, move it all around.*

*Prairie dogs hop on it; marmots stop on it;  
eagles drop on it. Healthy soil.  
Roots have hair in it; people put care in it;  
everybody shares in it. Healthy soil.  
Put your bottom in it, move it all around.*

*CHORUS*

### Species

*Big and white and wild and free  
Polar bears in the Bering Sea  
on the ice they carefully  
wait for their next meal  
watch the water for a seal  
when the seal comes up for air  
all it sees is snow but not the bear there  
in Africa a Rhino roams the great  
Savannah is its home*

*(continued next page)*



# Biodiversity And Billy B.

## Lyrics Sheet

### Cont. (Species)

*big and strong but not  
alone birds ride on his back  
eating ticks for a snack birds  
will peck and birds will bite  
free the rhino from the parasites*

*CHORUS  
that one bigger than that one, species,  
that one has longer hair, species  
that one has spots that one has stripes  
that one flies through the air, species  
species of animals, species of plants  
species that blossom, species that dance  
come on and dance  
insects here, insects there  
in the water land and air  
absolutely everywhere they will lay their eggs  
moving round on their six legs  
help the flowers make our food  
eating dead stuff getting caught and chewed  
biggest mammals in the seas  
biggest critters in history  
the great blue whale just wants to be  
right where the krill are  
that's the blue whale salad bar  
krill are small but smaller still  
are the plankton eaten by the krill*

*CHORUS*

### Ecosystem

*Out in the desert, the scorpion hides.  
The sun's pounding down. Yes, it's hot and dry.  
When the sun sets, he'll go looking for food.  
He might get lucky, but he might get chewed.*

### Cont. (Ecosystem)

*CHORUS  
Ecosystem, what is the temperature?  
Ecosystem, how much sun does it get?  
Ecosystem, what are the soils?  
Ecosystem, is it dry or is it wet?*

*Out in the forest, lightning strikes;  
knocks a big tree down.  
That's what mushrooms like.  
They're gonna sprout from that big ol' trunk.  
Getting nutrients from wood,  
while they're eaten by a skunk.*

*CHORUS*

*Now if you're gonna go ahead and try to list 'em,  
there are many kinds of ecosystems.  
So much to learn; so much to understand  
about freshwater, brackish, marine, and land.*

*CHORUS*

*Deep in the ocean, where light can't reach,  
a whale is heading to the surface.  
Yeah, she's gonna breach.  
She'll dive back down like she just did,  
hoping to eat some more giant squid.*

### The Water Planet

*The sun is shining, through the haze.  
The boat is trawling, through the bay.  
The gulls are flying; the net ascends.  
Upon the catch, people depend.*

*(continued next page)*



# Biodiversity And Billy B.

## Lyrics Sheet

### Cont. (The Water Planet)

*You got your baked clams and your sushi.  
Yes, seafood on your lips.  
Boiled lobster, and your crab legs,  
and your fish and chips.  
Big boats with their big nets  
catch fish out on the loose.  
Everywhere, they catch them faster  
than fish reproduce.*

#### CHORUS

*This is the water planet.  
You want oceans? This is it.  
Life is living in every sea.  
It can end up in you and me.*

*The Sun is shining, through the haze.  
The plankton's gliding. The krill graze.  
Bubbles rising, the whale ascends.  
Upon the krill, the whale depends.*

*The cod are gone on Cape Cod,  
and Newfy's banks are bare.  
No King crab left on Kodiak.  
We've taken what was there.  
But we can choose those places  
where fish can safely breed.  
So our great great grandchildren  
can catch the fish they need.*

#### CHORUS

*For every pound of shrimp! BYCATCH,  
there's many pounds more! BYCATCH,  
of once living things! BYCATCH,  
that will swim the sea no more! BYCATCH.  
Dolphins every day! BYCATCH;  
turtles of the sea! BYCATCH,*

### Cont. (The Water Planet)

*they're just thrown away! BYCATCH,  
and we lose diversity! BYCATCH.*

*The salmon's jumping to its birth place.  
Small fish darting; bluefish chase.  
The whale, it breeches.  
The dolphin plays.  
The shark, it circles the manta ray.*

*You got your baked clams and your sushi.  
Yes, seafood on your lips.  
Boiled lobster, and your crab legs,  
and your fish and chips.  
We must choose those places  
where fish can safely breed.  
So our great great grandchildren  
can catch the fish they need.*

### Wild Wetlands

*Mrs. Mosquito, she's been flying all day  
looking for blood for the eggs she will lay,  
eggs she will lay, she's hungry all day,  
eggs she will lay. What do mosquitoes say?  
(bzzzzzzz)*

*She spots the nose of an otter and then zeros in.  
But a fish catches her, as the otter eats him.*

#### CHORUS

*Where the tall grass bends  
and the swamp trees stand,  
for the food and the shelter  
of the wild wetlands.*

*(continued next page)*



# Biodiversity And Billy B.

## Lyrics Sheet

### Cont. (Wild Wetlands)

*There sits the owl.  
He's been sleeping all day.  
He waits for the night.  
Then he hunts his prey.  
He hunts his prey. He hunts the  
night away, hunts his prey.  
What does the owl say? (Hoo, hoo)  
With thick wide wings, he silently flies  
looking through the darkness  
with powerful eyes.*

#### CHORUS

*Here come the ducks.  
They've been flying all day.  
They're tired and looking  
for a place to stay, a place to stay,  
a place to hide away, a place to stay.  
What do the ducks say? (quack, quack)*

*The flock spots water and it circles around.  
Cupping their wings,  
they let the Earth pull them down.*

#### CHORUS

### The Estuary Song

*Whoa, it's the estuary.  
Mud and dead things washing down the river,  
settling on the bottom of the bay.  
Decomposers eat those dead things  
releasing their minerals every day.*

*Phytoplankton, little plants floating  
using those minerals while soaking up the sun.*

### Cont. (The Estuary Song)

*Zooplankton are the little critters  
that drift with the phytos while eating some.*

#### CHORUS

*It's where the ocean feeds  
on what the river carries.  
It's where the fresh and salt water mix  
with the leaves, the mud, and the sticks.  
It's a soup of life, and it's thick!  
Whoa, it's the estuary!*

*Oyster beds and underwater grass  
give food and shelter to many living things.  
Clams and snails and little fish hiding  
from the appetites the big fish bring.*

*Rock and blue fish chase anchovies.  
Great blue heron stalk the water's edge.  
Eagles and osprey fishing and flying  
as the gulls circle overhead.*

#### CHORUS

### Barnacles

#### CHORUS

*Barnacles, barnacles, where are you?  
Stuck on stuff with my barnacle glue!  
Barnacles, barnacles, where are you?  
On the rocks and the whales  
and the big ships too!*

*Adrift in the ocean, an egg floating free?  
when I hatch I'm almost too small to see.  
I look like an insect, then a shrimp. It's strange!*

*(continued next page)*



# Biodiversity And Billy B.

## Lyrics Sheet

### Cont. (Barnacles)

*How much in my life my body will change!*

CHORUS

*I stick my head to whatever's found.  
Secrete my glue to hold myself down.  
I grow a shell, which can open and close.  
Grab food with my legs and my hairy toes!*

CHORUS

### Emerge and See

*Oh, everybody's heard about the dinosaurs,  
and everybody knows they're not here anymore.  
Well, something big happened,  
and now they're gone.  
It was a massive extinction. Once again it's going on*

*Yeah, people need homes, food, and clothes.  
They use natural resources to get all of those.  
But nature won't last if  
we keep doing what's been done.  
There'll be nothing left for the children yet to come.*

CHORUS

*Woo (kids make sirens sounds) Emerge and See.  
We're losing our world's biodiversity.  
It's up to you. It's up to me to change this crazy  
human activity.*

*For as long as we've been here,  
there've been fish in the sea  
migrating up the rivers seasonally.  
With hooks, nets, and spears,  
we've caught what we could.*

### Cont. (Emerge and See)

*Because smoked, grilled, or broiled, fresh fish  
tastes good.*

*But there are dams in the rivers and sewage too,  
coming from pigs, chickens, cows, me and you.  
Huge boats with huge nets catch all in their wake.  
There are places in the ocean where there's  
nothing left to take.*

CHORUS

*Now, there are places where  
good things happen every day.  
Where people do the right things  
when they work and play.  
Where they protect the water, soil, and air,  
so the forest and fish will always be there.*

*But there are too many places  
where this is not true.  
We must watch what we buy and watch  
what we do.  
Conserve energy, and make sure that  
whatever you buy doesn't hurt habitats.*

CHORUS