10/25/11

* Chapter 16 Conservation and Biodiversity
	+ Biodiversity benefits humans in many ways
		- Vinblastine and vincristine
			* Madigascar Periwinkle
				+ Leukemia & hodgkins Lymphoma
		- Ancrod
			* Malayan Pit Viper
				+ Blood clots heart attack & stroke
		- Epidatidine
			* Poison Dart Frog Spit
				+ Pain relief 200X and non-addictive
	+ Biodiversity is not easily defined
		- Eco systems
		- Number of species
	+ Biodiversity hotspots
		- Less than 1% of land mass but contains 20% or more of the world’s species
	+ Extinction reduces biodiversity
		- There are multiple causes of extinction
			* Passenger pigeons were hunted to extinction
				+ The last one, named Martha, died in the Cincinnati zoo in 1914
		- Two categories
			* Mass extinction
			* Background extinction
		- We are in the midst of a mass extinction!
			* Current rates of extinction in every well-studied group of plants and animals
			* The result of the activities of one species is the cause: Humans
		- Human interference generally reduce biodiversity
		- Some ecosystem disturbances are reversible, others are not
	+ Loss of biodiversity
		- Deforestation
			* Reducing biodiversity
			* Increasing greenhouse gases
		- Planting new trees can undo some of the damage done by deforestation