

LEARNING CENTER



LICHEN

What is Lichen?

Lichens may look like disease-causing fungi at first glance.

Each lichen is a partnership between both a fungus and algae and causes no damage to the object on which they are growing.

Over 6% of the Earth's surface is estimated to be covered by lichens. There are over 20,000 different species, and they come in a variety of colors and shapes.

Does Lichen Harm the Tree?

Lichen is self-sustaining - it doesn't take any nutrients from the tree that it's on and therefore **does not harm the tree** (*although some people find it unsightly*). It gets all of the nutrients it needs from rain and the surrounding air.

