



# Wallpaper of the Woods

A photograph of Wolf Lichen (Letharia vulpina) growing on a dark, textured rock surface. The lichen is bright yellow-green and has a branching, hair-like appearance. A semi-transparent grey banner is overlaid on the top half of the image, containing the title and scientific name.

# Wolf Lichen

*Letharia vulpina*

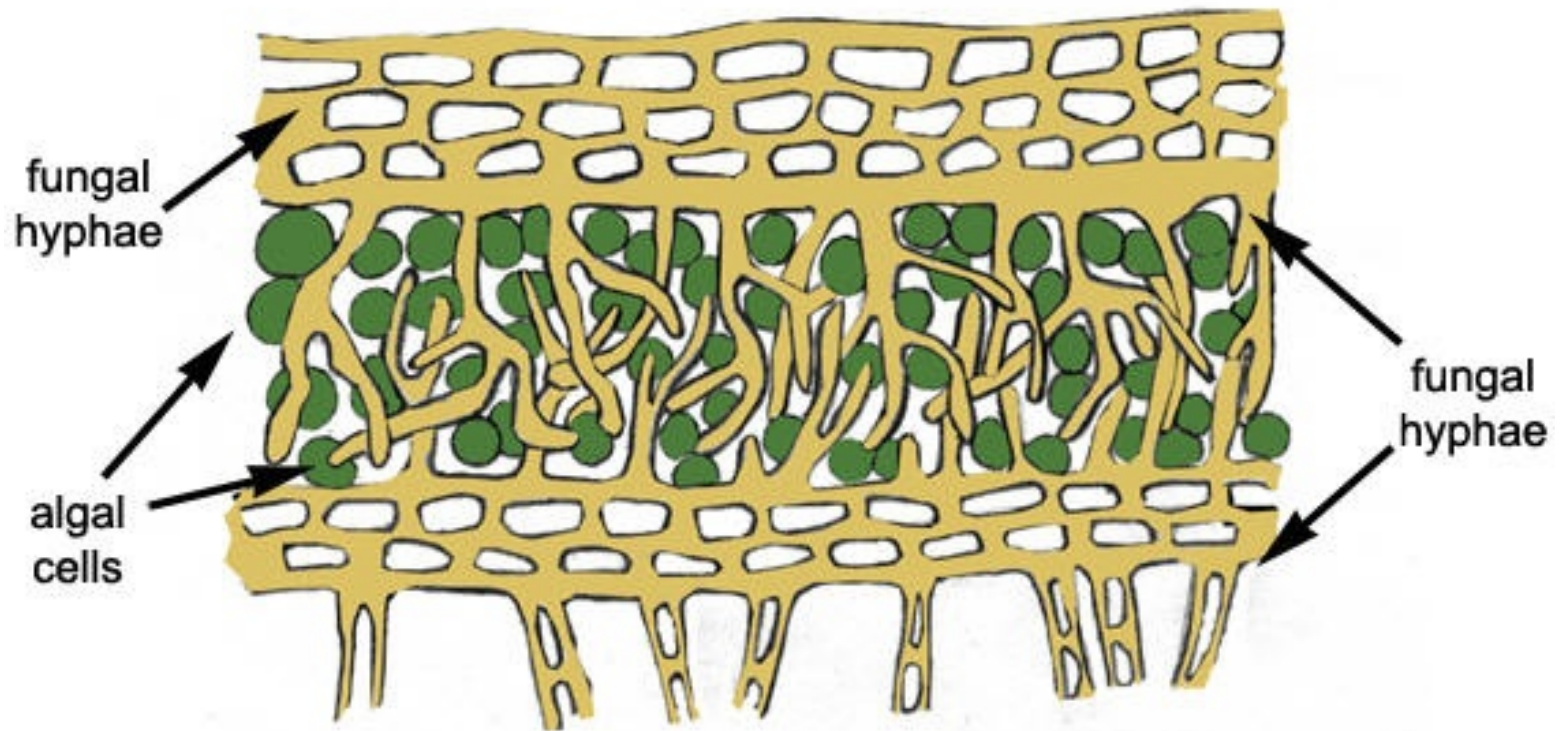
# Historical Uses

- Wolf Lichen contains vulpinic acid, poisonous to wolves and foxes
- Europeans ground up Wolf Lichen to coat meat and glass to kill these creatures
- Native Americans used ground up Wolf Lichen to coat arrowheads when hunting game



# Symbiotic Relationship

**Fungi + Algae = Lichen**



A close-up photograph of a bright yellow, branching lichen growing on a dark, weathered log. The background is a blurred landscape with mountains and trees under a bright sky. In the top left corner, there is a small yellow speech bubble icon.

# Habitat and Air Quality

- Wolf Lichen absorbs everything: air, water, nutrients, and even toxins through their cortex
- The species can only survive in geographic areas with pristine air quality



# Substrates

- Lichen lives on substrates that allow for slow and long growth
- Wolf Lichen grows around coniferous tree trunks and branches
- Wolf Lichen thrives in areas with higher-levels of precipitation and partial shade



# Reproduction

- Despite the species green coloration, Wolf Lichen does not photosynthesize and relies on both partners of the symbiotic relationship (fungi and algae) for reproduction
- The fungal cells produce spores which surround the algal cells