

What if European settlers never came?

• Prediction: Everything would look the same as in 1800.

• Justify: How do you know? (POINTS!)

What if water burned & fire nourished plants?

• Prediction: Less vegetation (year-round)  
... (more on a test)

\* Rain is  
not controlled,  
fire is

• Justify: Pretty much the same situation — big difference is that uncontrolled rain will be more destructive than controlled fire

\* Details  
for most  
points

seeds? old trees?  
frequency → temperature?

What <sup>would the landscape look like</sup> if the fire burned seeds in addition to dead/dying vegetation & young shrubs/trees?

Prediction: We'd see older trees & some younger trees, but not shrubs, flowers, or ~~much~~ grass

Justify: Older trees → still don't burn  
Younger trees → older trees drop seeds after fire

grass / shrubs / flowers → all seeds burn  
Grass → animals transport seeds  
—OR— change prediction

Imagine that you were living in an open woodland / oak savanna that was maintained by annual burning. What do you think would happen if you came through and picked up every plant seed that made it through the burning? Describe what the landscape might look like after one year, after five years, and after ten years. Use your knowledge of the processes we discussed in class to justify your response. (15 minutes)

Try to come up with a  
different prediction and justification  
from the last question...