

Kickoff: GET HW OUT

The following data are actual statistics from the Tennessee Department of Transportation showing the number of deer related automobile crashes from 2003-2006.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	County	2003	2004	2005	2006	Average
2	Blount	26	60	62	86	59
3	Knox	21	50	56	76	51
4	Loudon	15	22	63	79	45
5	Monroe	5	9	14	17	11
6	Sevier	31	31	40	58	40

Based on these data:

- What overall trend is occurring across all counties in East Tennessee from 2003-2006?
- Analyze and discuss why the data might be different for each individual county.

Interdependence (Part 1) - Populations of organisms

SPI 3210.2.1 Predict how population changes of organisms at different trophic levels affect an ecosystem.

SPI 3210.2.2 Interpret the relationship between environmental factors and fluctuations in population size.

SPI 3210.2.3 Determine how the carrying capacity of an ecosystem is affected by interactions among organisms.

Kickoff:

The following data are actual statistics from the Tennessee Department of Transportation showing the number of deer related automobile crashes from 2003-2006.

.	Deer Crashes Statewide by Month, 2003 - 2006					
Month	2003	2004	2005	2006	4 Yr Totals	4 Yr Average
Jan	294	389	405	443	1531	383
Feb	217	236	311	259	1023	256
Mar	245	223	291	333	1092	273
Apr	236	245	215	325	1021	255
May	274	267	326	420	1287	322
Jun	298	311	315	416	1340	335
Jul	217	244	249	340	1050	263
Aug	194	211	239	257	901	225
Sep	230	248	234	302	1014	254
Oct	523	549	598	586	2256	564
Nov	1060	1178	1094	1334	4666	1167
Dec	627	644	665	869	2805	701
Totals	4415	4745	4942	5884	19986	4997

*TN Dept. of Safety, TN Crash Reporting System, 9/27/2007.

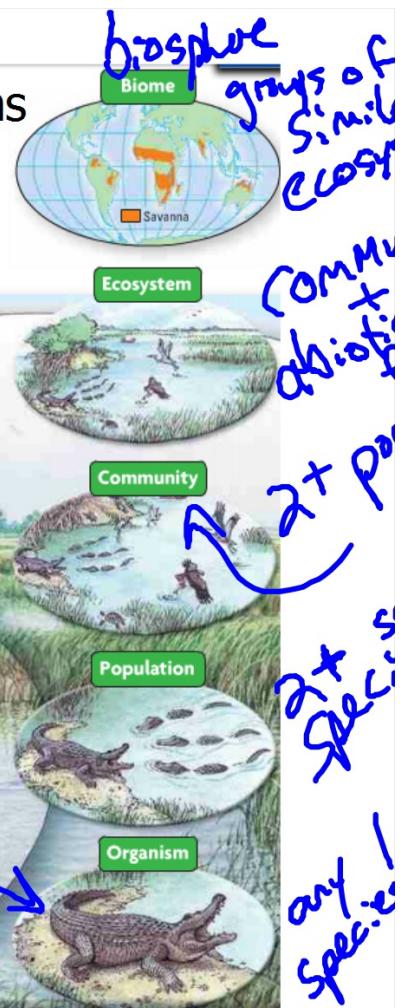
Assess the temporal variability (change in time) within a year **and** among years.

Interdependence - Populations of organisms hierarchy

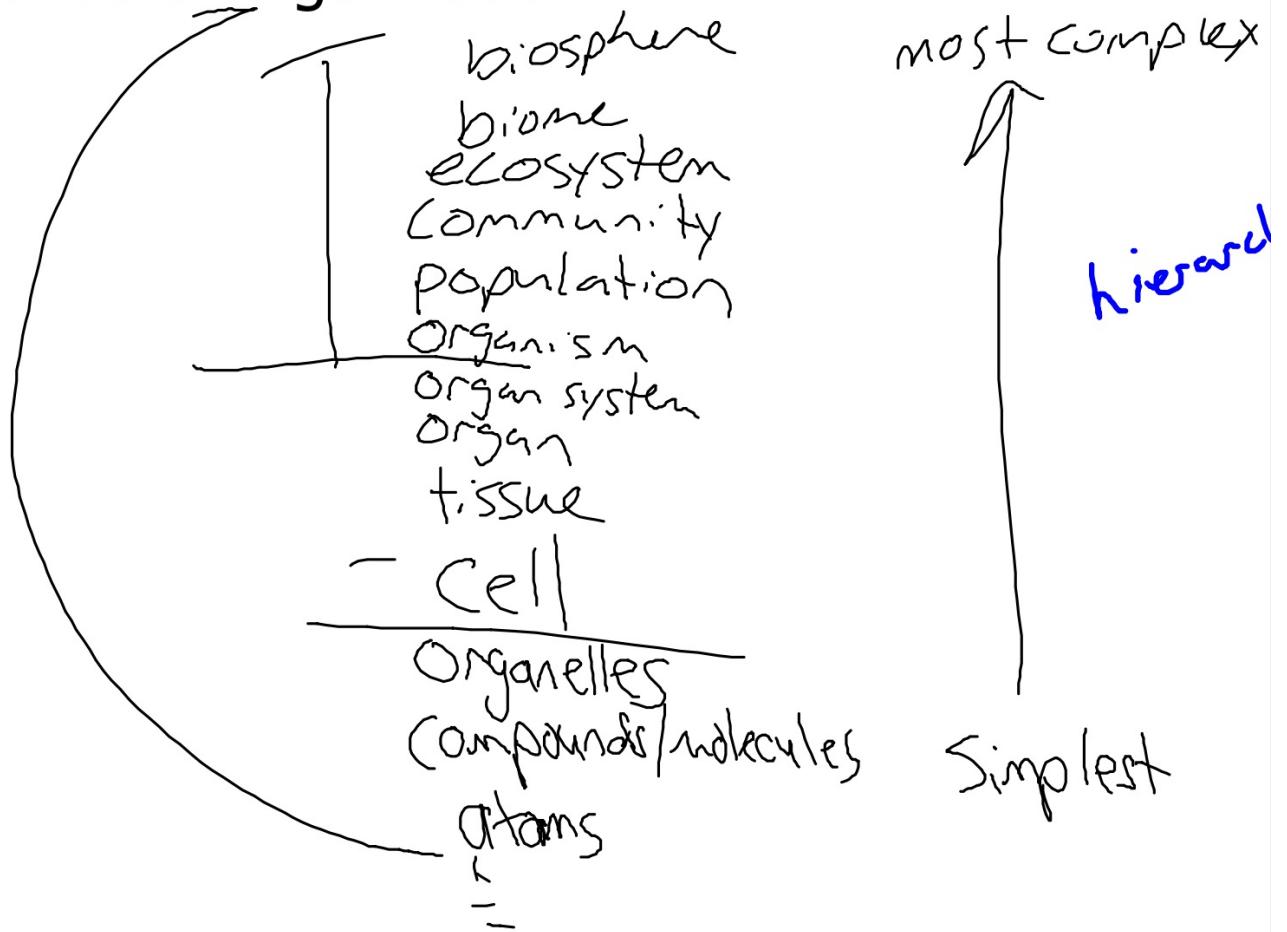
Apply What level of organization describes a flock of pigeons in a park?

FIGURE 13.2 Levels of Organization

The Florida Everglades is an example of the subtropical savanna biome. Many organisms live in this aquatic ecosystem.



Levels of organization





Estimating population size:

- Direct counting
- Trap/mark/release
- Modelling
- Quadrat sampling



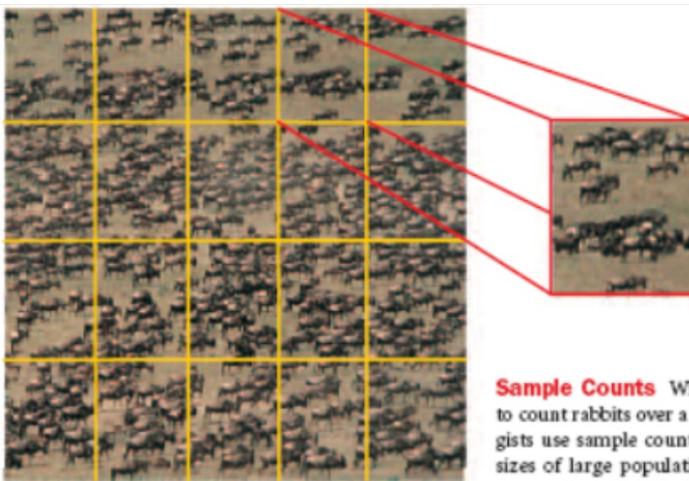


Figure 7
Ecologists can estimate population size by making a sample count. Wildebeests graze on the grassy plains of Africa. How could you use the enlarged square to estimate the number of wildebeests in the entire photograph?

Sample Counts What if you wanted to count rabbits over a large area? Ecologists use sample counts to estimate the sizes of large populations. To estimate the number of rabbits in a 100-acre area,

for example, you could count the rabbits in one acre and multiply by 100 to estimate the population size. **Figure 7** shows another approach to sample counting.

Limiting Factors One grass plant can produce hundreds of seeds. Imagine those seeds drifting onto a vacant field. Many of the seeds sprout and grow into grass plants that produce hundreds more seeds. Soon the field is covered with grass. Can this grass population keep growing forever? Suppose the seeds of wildflowers or trees drift onto the field. If those seeds sprout, trees and flowers would compete with grasses for sunlight, soil, and water. Even if the grasses did not have to compete with other plants, they might eventually use up all the space in the field. When no more living space is available, the population cannot grow.

In any ecosystem, the availability of food, water, living space, mates, nesting sites, and other resources is often limited. A limiting factor is anything that restricts the number of individuals in a population. Limiting factors include living and non-living features of the ecosystem.

Kickoff: A group of scientists are concerned about the decline in a population of polar bears. Which of the following approaches would you take for solving the problem and why?

- global approach
- ecosystem approach
- community approach
- population approach
- organism approach

An ecosystem includes both biotic and abiotic factors.

All ecosystems are made up of living and nonliving components. These parts are referred to as biotic and abiotic factors.

- **Biotic** (by-AHT-ihk) factors are living things, such as plants, animals, fungi, and bacteria. Each organism plays a particular role in the ecosystem. For example, earthworms play a key role in enriching the soil.
- **Abiotic** (AY-by-AHT-ihk) factors are nonliving things such as moisture, temperature, wind, sunlight, and soil. The balance of these factors determines which living things can survive in a particular environment.

abiotic - terrestrial

Soil, sediment, rock
Sunlight
water
temperature
rain

aquatic

Oxygen
pH
Salinity

speed
(cu)

depth
pre

Pollutant(g)

Producers provide energy for other organisms in an ecosystem.

All organisms must have a source of energy in order to survive. However, not all organisms obtain their energy by eating other organisms.

- **Producers** are organisms that get their energy from nonliving resources, meaning they make their own food. Their distribution is shown in **FIGURE 13.7**. Producers are also called **autotrophs** (AW-tuh-TRAHFS). In the word *autotroph*, the suffix *-troph* comes from a Greek word meaning “nourishment.” The prefix *auto-* means “self.”
- **Consumers** are organisms that get their energy by eating other living or once-living resources, such as plants and animals. Consumers are also called **heterotrophs** (HEHT-uhr-uh-TRAHFS). In the word *heterotroph*, the prefix *hetero-* means “different.”

photoautotrophs → $C_6H_{12}O_6$
chemoautotrophs

13.4

Food Chains and Food Webs

KEY CONCEPT Food chains and food webs model the flow of energy in an ecosystem.

► MAIN IDEAS

- A food chain is a model that shows a sequence of feeding relationships.
- A food web shows a complex network of feeding relationships.

VOCABULARY

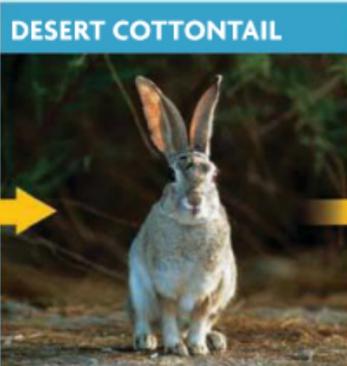
- food chain**, p. 408 **decomposer**, p. 409
herbivore, p. 409 **specialist**, p. 409
carnivore, p. 409 **generalist**, p. 409
omnivore, p. 409 **trophic level**, p. 409
detritivore, p. 409 **food web**, p. 411

FIGURE 13.9 Food Chain

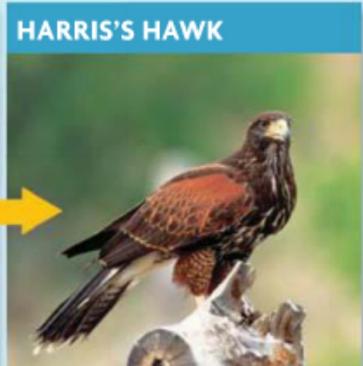
Energy flows through a **food chain**.



GRAMMA GRASS



DESERT COTTONTAIL



HARRIS'S HAWK

Gramma grass, a producer, obtains its energy through photosynthesis.

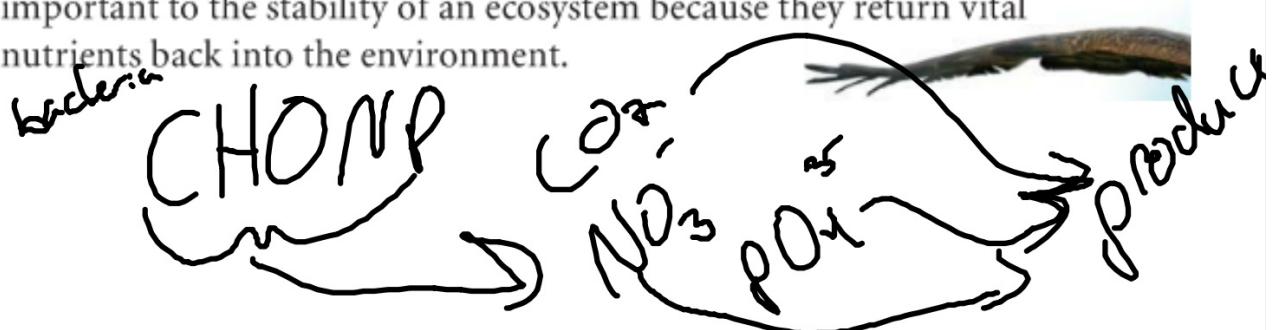
The desert cottontail, a consumer, obtains its energy by eating the seeds of plants, such as grama grass.

The Harris's hawk, a consumer, obtains its energy by eating other animals, such as desert cottontails.

Types of Consumers

As you read in Section 13.3, consumers are organisms that eat other organisms. All consumers, however, are not alike.

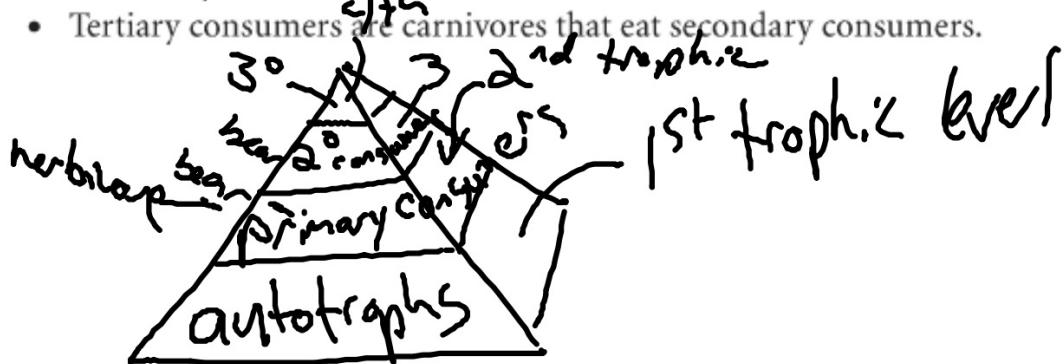
- **Herbivores**, such as desert cottontails, are organisms that eat only plants.
- **Carnivores** are organisms that eat only animals. Harris's hawks are carnivores that eat desert cottontails.
- **Omnivores** are organisms that eat both plants and animals. Kangaroo rats are omnivores that eat both seeds and insects.
- **Detritivores** (dih-TRY-tuh-voHRZ) are organisms that eat detritus, or dead organic matter. A millipede is a detritivore that feeds on particles of detritus on the ground. *Detritus*
- **Decomposers** are detritivores that break down organic matter into simpler compounds. Fungi, for example, are decomposers. Decomposers are important to the stability of an ecosystem because they return vital nutrients back into the environment.



Trophic Levels ("feeding levels")

Trophic levels are the levels of nourishment in a food chain. For example, the producer–herbivore–carnivore chain has three trophic levels. Carnivores are at the highest trophic level. Herbivores are at the second trophic level. Producers are at the first, or bottom, trophic level. Energy flows up the food chain from the lowest trophic level to the highest.

- Primary consumers are herbivores because they are the first consumer above the producer trophic level.
- Secondary consumers are carnivores that eat herbivores.
- Tertiary consumers are carnivores that eat secondary consumers.



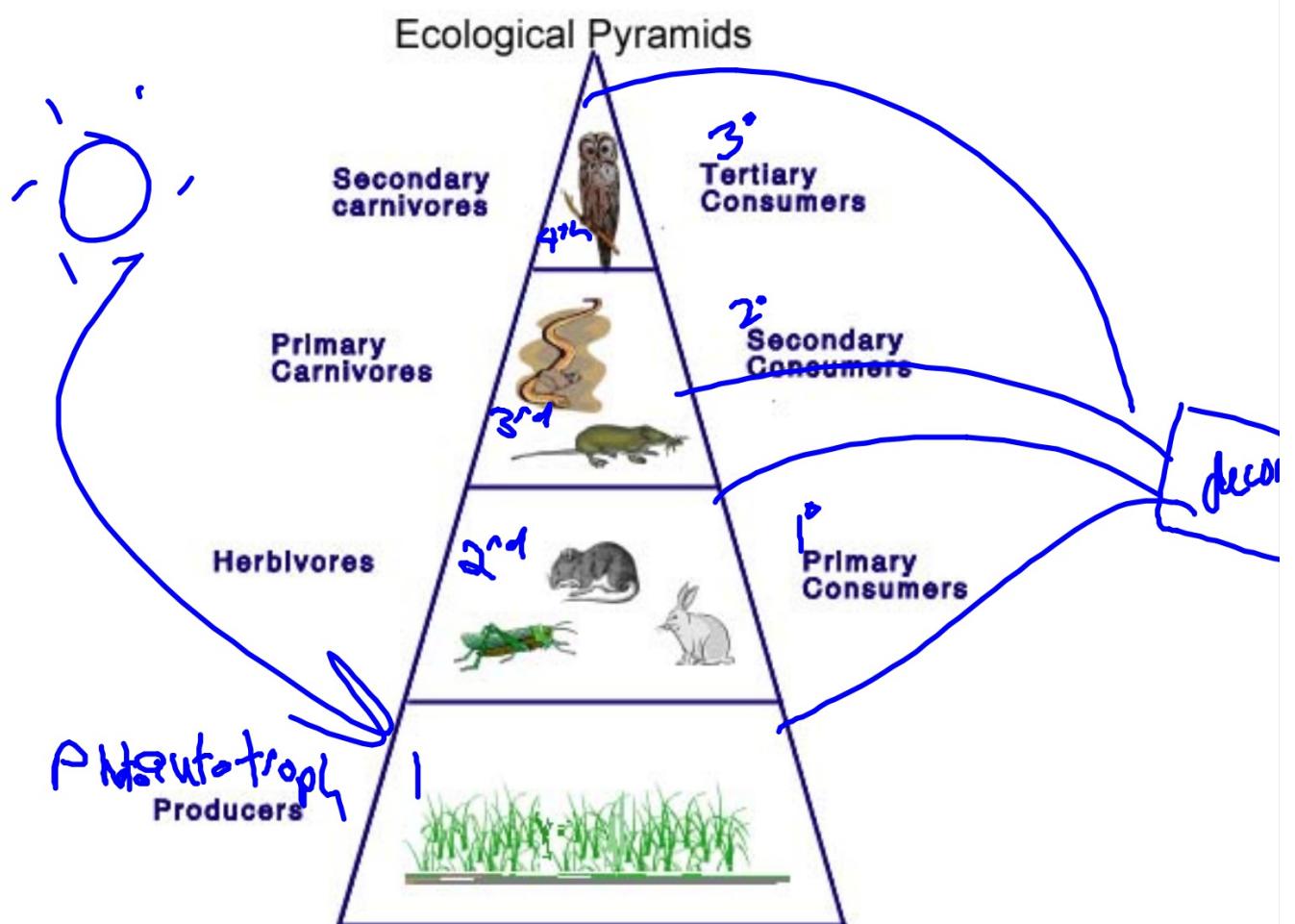
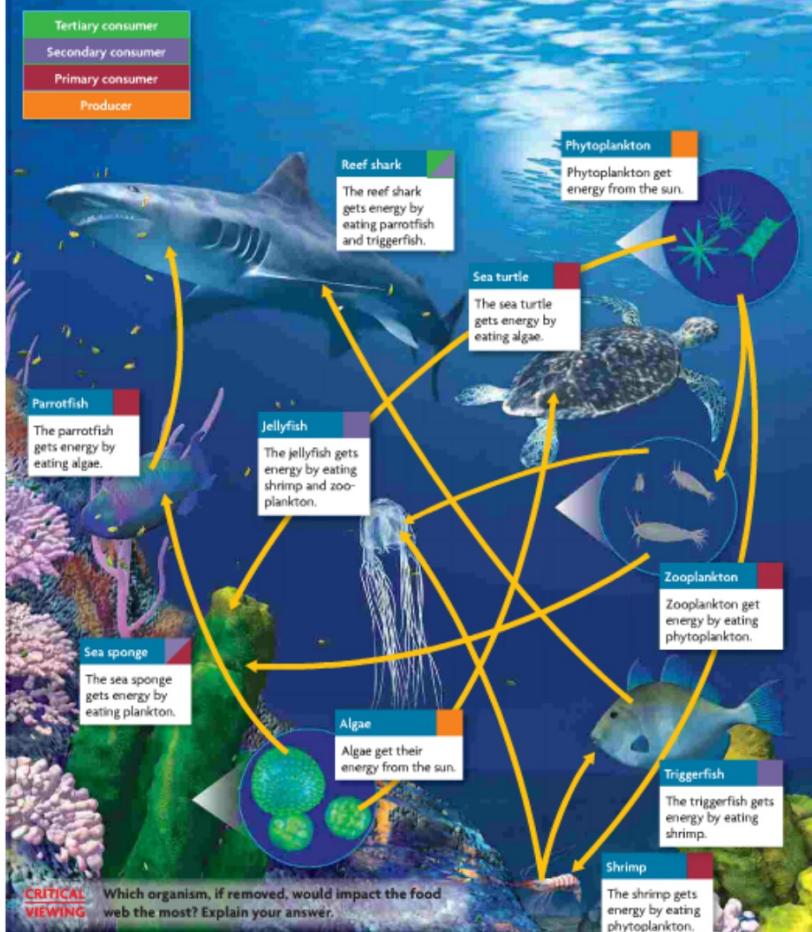


FIGURE 13.11 Food Web

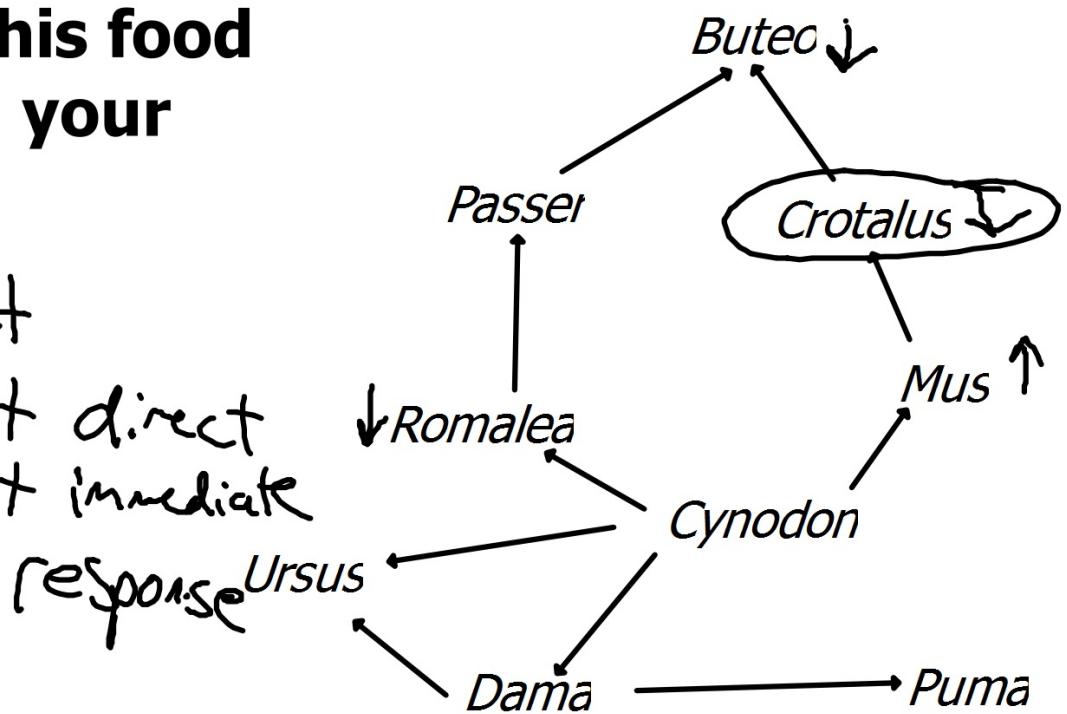
A **food web** shows the network of feeding relationships between trophic levels within an ecosystem. The food web in a coral reef can be quite complex because many organisms feed on a variety of other species.



Copy this food web in your notes!

Predict

- most direct
- most immediate response



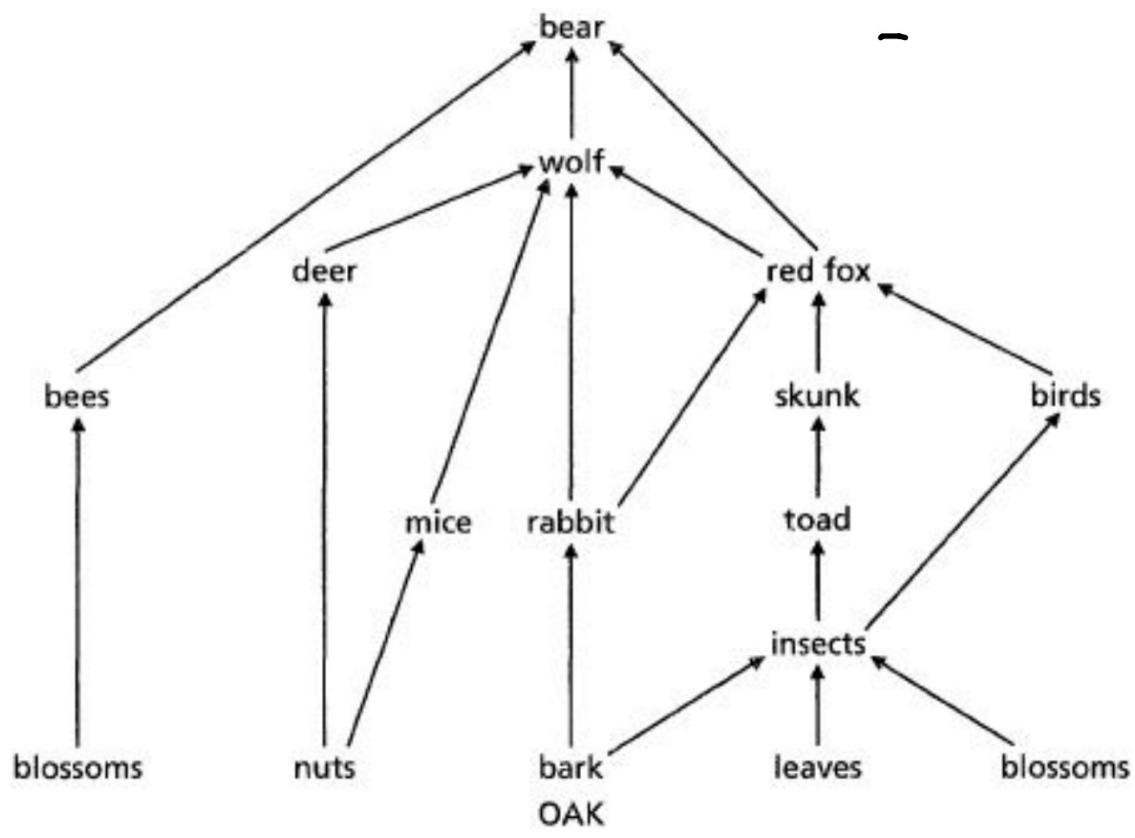
1. Which is the primary producer?
2. Which organism is an omnivore?
3. What trophic level is *Crotalus* feeding at?
4. What might happen if the *Crotalus* population goes down?

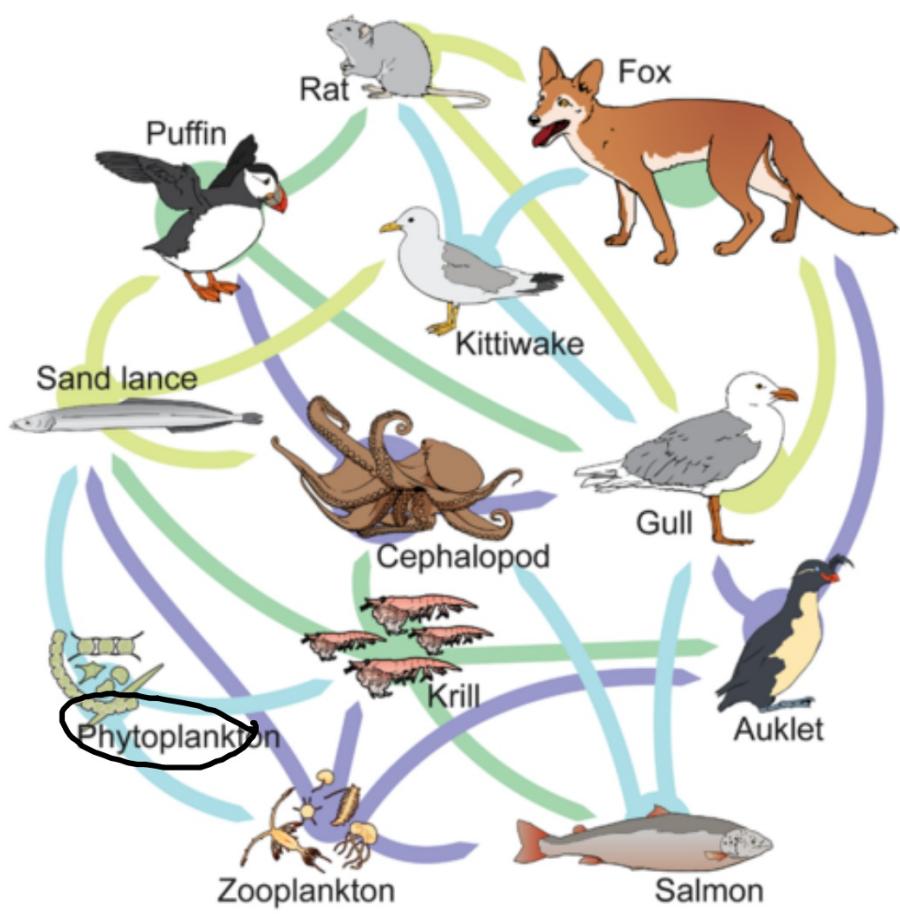
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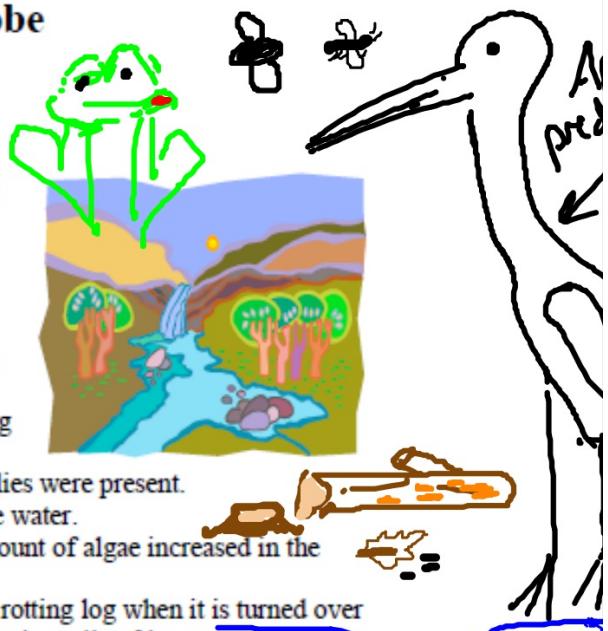


Assessment Probe

Creek Study

In a creek behind the school, students observed several interactions. Read the journal entries below to find out what they saw.

- Aquatic snails were found only on the algae-covered rocks.
- Snails, frogs, and small fish were harder to find after a flock of herons came to the creek.
- Beautiful orange colored shelf fungi are growing out of a dead tree stump.
- Frogs sat in the shallow water when adult mayflies were present.
- Small fish were seen eating mayfly larvae in the water.
- There were more mayflies present when the amount of algae increased in the pond.
- Wood lice (pill bugs) crawl out of crevices of a rotting log when it is turned over to expose the damp underside that has been lying in a pile of leaves.



1. Construct a food web based on these observations. Your food web should include the name of the organism and a label identifying it as one (or more, if appropriate) of the following:

- decomposer
- tertiary consumer
- primary consumer
- secondary consumer
- producer



2. Include arrows that point in the direction of where the energy is flowing in your food web.



Creek Study: Follow-up

1. In the food web you illustrated yesterday, what do you think would directly happen if the snail population suddenly decreased to only a few? Why might indirect predictions be difficult to make?
2. In the food web you created yesterday, if 90% of the energy transferred to the environment as thermal energy, how much energy would be available to the heron if the original amount of energy from the sun was 10,000 kilocalories?

14.1

Habitat and Niche

KEY CONCEPT Every organism has a habitat and a niche.

MAIN IDEAS

- A habitat differs from a niche.
- Resource availability gives structure to a community.

VOCABULARY

- habitat**, p. 428
ecological niche, p. 428
competitive exclusion, p. 429
ecological equivalent, p. 430

You can think of a habitat as *where* a species lives and a niche as *how* it lives within its habitat. A niche includes

- **Food** The type of food a species eats, how a species competes with others for food, and where it fits in the food web are all part of its niche.
- **Abiotic conditions** A niche includes the range of conditions, such as air temperature and amount of water, that a species can tolerate.
- **Behavior** The time of day a species is active as well as where and when it reproduces are factors in the niche of a species.



Competitive Exclusion principle

We have already seen that many species can share similar habitats and that they may use some of the same resources, as shown in **FIGURE 14.2**. But when two species use the same resources in the same ways, one species will always be better adapted to the environment. The principle of **competitive exclusion** states that when two species are competing for the same resources, one species will be better suited to the niche, and the other species will be pushed into another niche or become extinct.

between
interspecific
competition
intraspecific
competition
within a species

No 2 species can occupy the same niche.

"Win or go home"

14.2

Community Interactions

KEY CONCEPT Organisms interact as individuals and as populations.

MAIN IDEAS

- Competition and predation are two important ways in which organisms interact.
- Symbiosis is a close relationship between species.

VOCABULARY

- competition, p. 431
predation, p. 431
symbiosis, p. 432
mutualism, p. 432

commensalism, p. 432
parasitism, p. 432
Review
community

B. **Symbiosis** - any close relationship between species

1. **Mutualism** - a symbiotic relationship in which both species benefit

lichen
→ fungus + algae



2. **Commensalism** - a symbiotic relationship in which one species benefits and the other is not affected.

Host / parasite

3. **Parasitism** - a symbiotic relationship in which one organism benefits and the other is harmed.

What causes a population size to change:

Biot.:

disease/bacteria/parasites
introduced/invasive species
- competition
- predator/prey
"food"-producers/consumers
Sex ratio
biotic potential
birth rate (natality)
death rate (mortality)

Abiot.:

weather/climate change
natural disasters
water pollution
SPACE

immigration (into)
emigration (exit)

Changes in Population Size

limiting factors - things that limit a population from growing
- food, water, space, predators, disease, natural ~~dis-~~

Immigration - move in

Emigration - exit (move out)

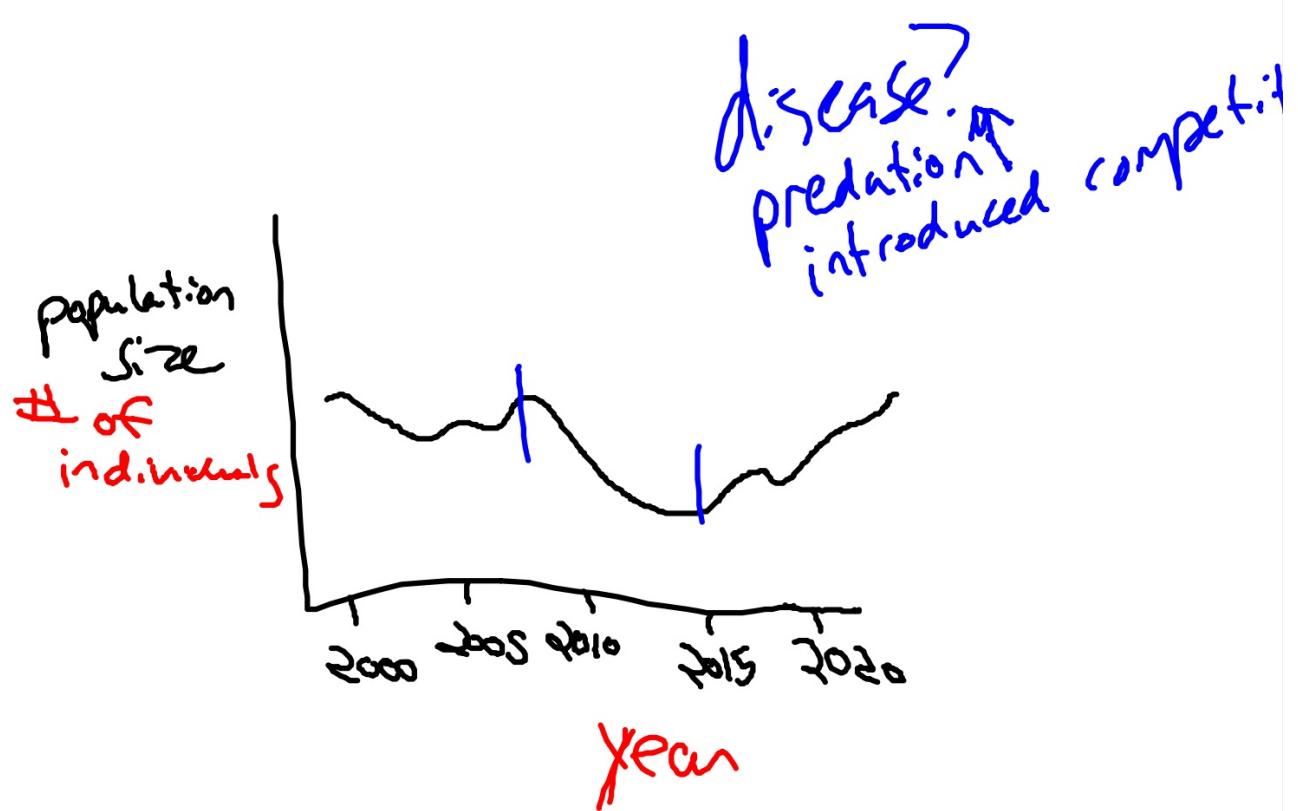
Sex ratio - the # of male:female M:F

Biotic potential - the ability to add new offspring

Birth rate / death rate

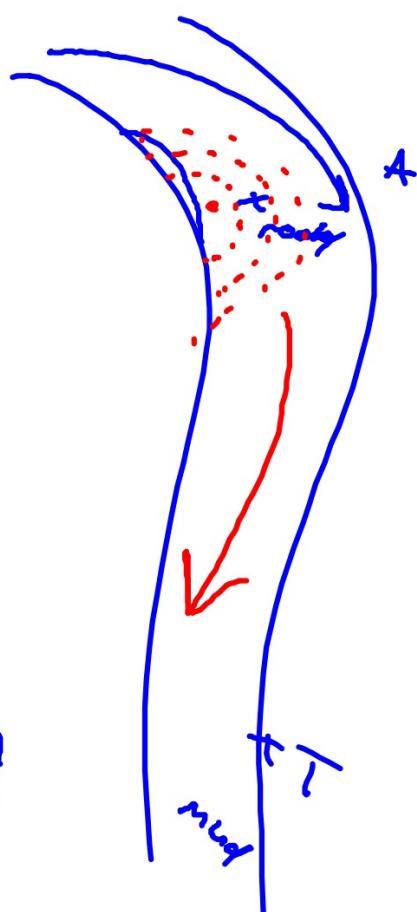
natality / mortality





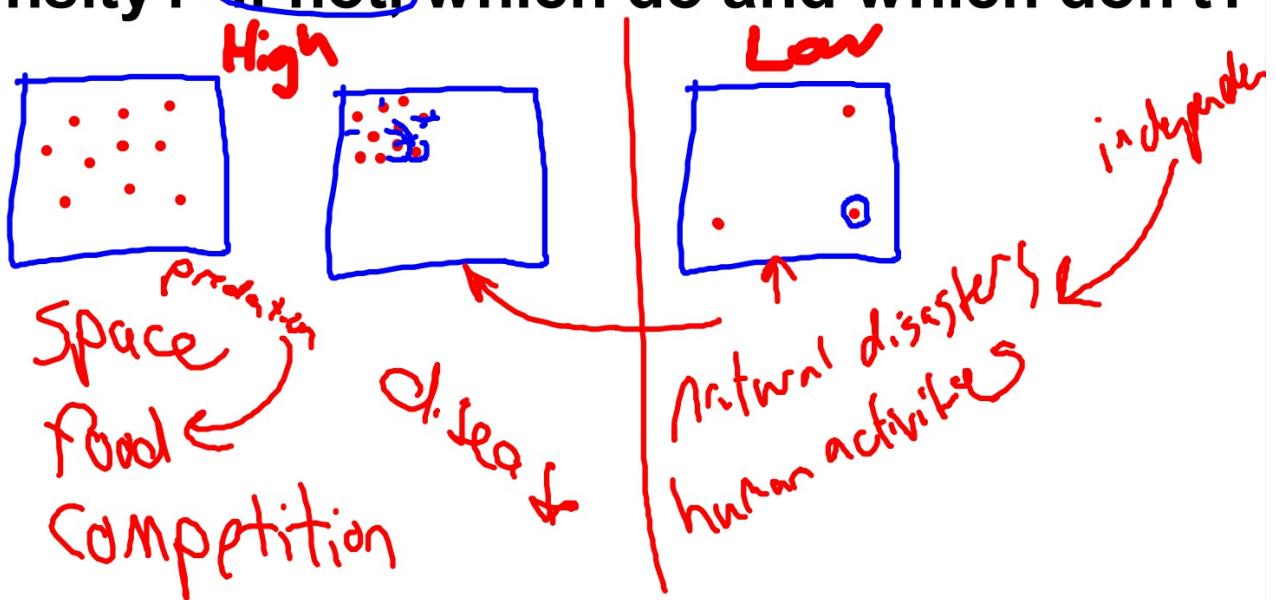
Crayfish distribution

- substrate type
(current speed)
- time of day (light)
- food availability
- predators?
- water quality:
- hydrodynamics
- mortality



Kickoff: (Get Homework out!)

Do all the environmental factors affecting population size depend on the population density? **If not, which do and which don't?**



14.3



Population Density and Distribution

KEY CONCEPT Each population has a density, a dispersion, and a reproductive strategy.

MAIN IDEAS

- Population density is the number of individuals that live in a defined area.
- Geographic dispersion of a population shows how individuals in a population are spaced.
- Survivorship curves help to describe the reproductive strategy of a species.

VOCABULARY

- population density**, p. 436
population dispersion, p. 437
survivorship curve, p. 438



$$\frac{\text{# of individuals}}{\text{area (units}^2\text{)}} = \text{population density}$$

Spreading

Dispersion types:

- uniform
- clumped
- random

$n=10$

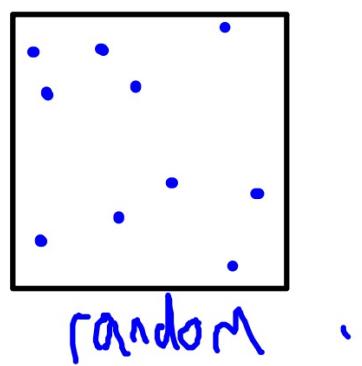
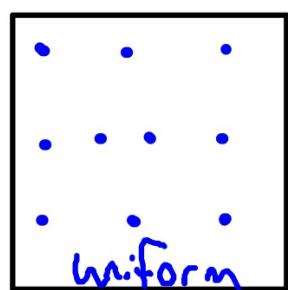
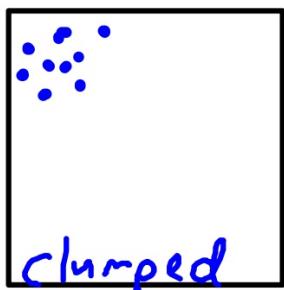
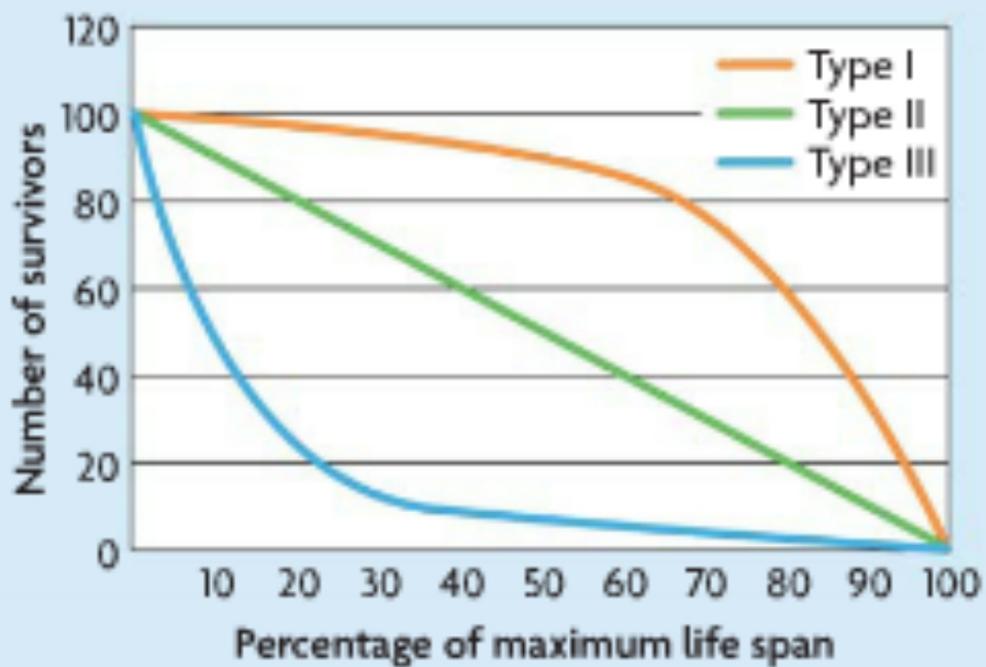


FIGURE 14.8 SURVIVORSHIP CURVES



14.4

Population Growth Patterns

KEY CONCEPT Populations grow in predictable patterns.

► MAIN IDEAS

- Changes in a population's size are determined by immigration, births, emigration, and deaths.
- Population growth is based on available resources.
- Ecological factors limit population growth.

VOCABULARY

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| immigration , p. 440 | population crash , p. 442 |
| emigration , p. 440 | limiting factor , p. 443 |
| exponential growth , p. 441 | density-dependent limiting factor , p. 443 |
| logistic growth , p. 441 | density-independent limiting factor , p. 444 |
| carrying capacity , p. 442 | |

- **Immigration** When one or two fruit flies found the banana, they immigrated into your backpack. **Immigration** is the movement of individuals into a population from another population.
- **Births** Additional fruit flies were born in your backpack. Births increase the number of individuals in a population.
- **Emigration** After you opened your backpack, some fruit flies flew out and left to find other rotting fruit. **Emigration** is the movement of individuals out of a population and into another population.
- **Deaths** You might have squashed a couple of unlucky fruit flies as you were opening your backpack. The size of a population decreases when individuals die.

Limiting factor

food

Water

Space

Disease

Natural disasters

Predators

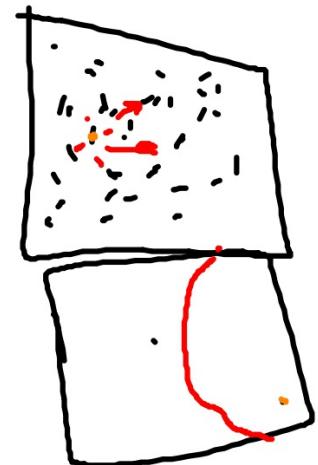
Pollution

Habitat^{loss}

Climate change

density dependent

density - independent



Density-Dependent Limiting Factors

Density-dependent limiting factors are limiting factors that are affected by the number of individuals in a given area. Density-dependent limiting factors include many different types of species interactions.

Competition Members of populations compete with one another for resources such as food and shelter. As a population becomes denser, the resources are used up, limiting how large the population can grow.

Predation The population of a predator can be limited by the available prey, and the population of prey can be limited by being caught for food. On Isle Royale in Michigan, changes in wolf and moose populations, shown in **FIGURE 14.13**, provide an example. As the moose population grows, so does the wolf population. But at a certain point, the wolves eat so many moose that there are not enough left to feed all the wolves. The result is a decrease in the wolf population. Over time, the two populations rise and fall in a pattern, shown in **FIGURE 14.13**.

Parasitism and disease Parasites and diseases can spread more quickly through dense populations. The more crowded an area becomes, the easier it is for parasites or diseases to spread. The parasites or diseases can then cause the size of the population to decrease.

*between "within" a spec interspecific/intraspecific
2 different species deer/cle
deer/moose / second*



FIGURE 14.14 The storm surge accompanying a hurricane can cause dangerous flooding.

Handwritten notes in blue ink:
Pollution
Deforestation
Urbanization
Desertification
Floods
Drought

Density-Independent Limiting Factors

Density-independent limiting factors are the aspects of the environment that limit a population's growth regardless of the density of the population. *climate change*

Unusual weather Weather can affect the size of a population regardless of its density. For example, along the western coast of the United States, a lack of southerly winds can prevent nutrient poor warm water from being replaced, as it normally is, with nutrient-rich cold water. The lack of nutrients in the water along the coast can prevent phytoplankton, which form the base of the marine ecosystem, from growing in their usual large numbers. In turn, zooplankton, tiny organisms that feed on phytoplankton, have smaller populations. The effects are felt all the way up the food chain, with smaller populations of fish and birds.

Natural disasters Volcanoes, tsunamis, tornados, and hurricanes, shown in **FIGURE 14.14**, can wipe out populations regardless of density. For example, the large wave of a tsunami can damage fragile coral reefs, knock down entire mangrove forests, and destroy sea turtle nesting beaches.

Human activities Destruction of a wetland habitat along the Platte River in Nebraska has threatened an important feeding ground for the sandhill crane. Urbanization in this area is depleting the resources these migratory birds need during their trek to nesting grounds in northern Canada and in Alaska. By clearing forests, filling wetlands, and polluting the air, land, and water, humans threaten habitats and the organisms that live in them. As we will discuss in Chapter 16, human influence as a limiting factor has had a profound effect on populations. For example, the introduction of nonnative species has caused population crashes in many parts of the world where biodiversity is an important part of the ecosystem's functioning.

Predator and Prey: Track two populations of animals and see their fate when you roll the dice. Graph the running total of your population (how your population changes with each roll) on your graph paper.

Materials:

Graph paper

2 different colored pencils

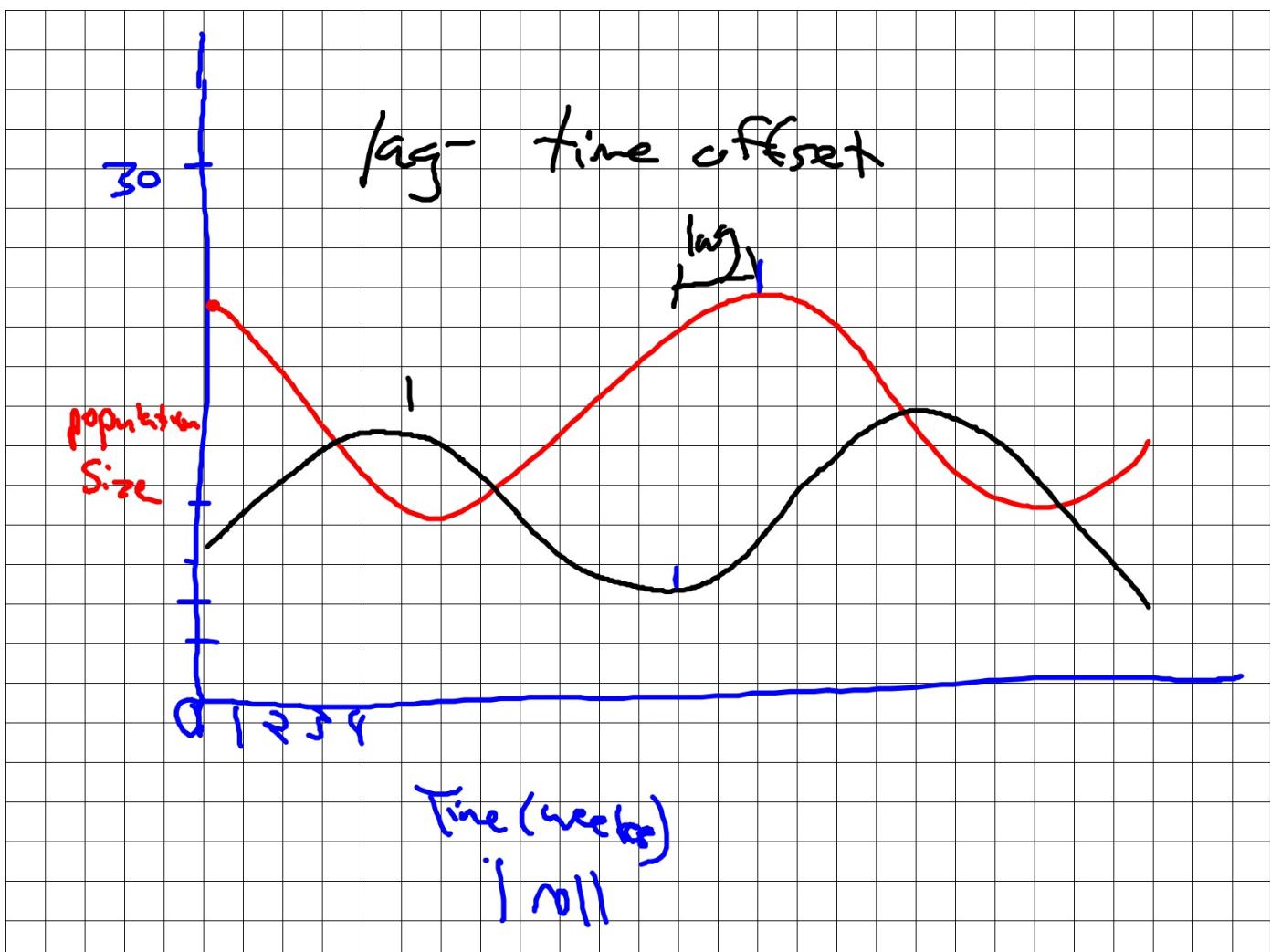
dice

Predator population count 20:

- 1 = You were poached by hunters – subtract 2 from your population
- 2 = You died of starvation – subtract 1 from the population
- 3 = You had to leave because there was no resources to survive – subtract 2
- 4 = Urbanization displaced you from your habitat – subtract 1
- 5 = You just had two offspring – add 2 to the population
- 6 = Two more of your species moved in due to plentiful resources – add 2

Prey population count 30:

- 1 = You were just eaten by a predator – subtract 1
- 2 = You are overpopulated and forced to move out of the area – subtract 3
- 3 = A parasitic epidemic occurred and killed two of you – subtract 2
- 4 = Hunters legally shot you – subtract 2
- 5 = You had three offspring – add 3
- 6 = You found out two more of your species moved in the area – add 2



Kickoff

Assessment Probe

How Many Bambis?

1. A natural area had a population of deer. List four factors you need to know about the deer in order to calculate their reproductive potential.



2. That same natural area had mountain lions.
 - a. How might mountain lions act as a population limiting factor?
 - b. What abiotic factors might also act as limiting factors on the deer?

SPI 2.3: Changes affecting carrying capacity



Carrying Capacity

The environment determines how many individuals of the species can be supported based on natural cycles and species diversity. An environment, therefore, has a carrying capacity for each species living in it. The **carrying capacity** of an environment is the maximum number of individuals of a particular species that the environment can normally and consistently support.

In nature, a carrying capacity can change when the environment changes. Consider a population of grasshoppers that feed on meadow grasses. If a fire burns part of the meadow, the insects' food resources diminish, and the carrying capacity declines. But during years with plentiful rain, the meadow grasses flourish, and the carrying capacity rises.

The actual size of the population usually is higher or lower than the carrying capacity. Populations will rise and fall as a result of natural changes in the supply of resources. In this way, the environment naturally controls the size of a population.

Population Crash

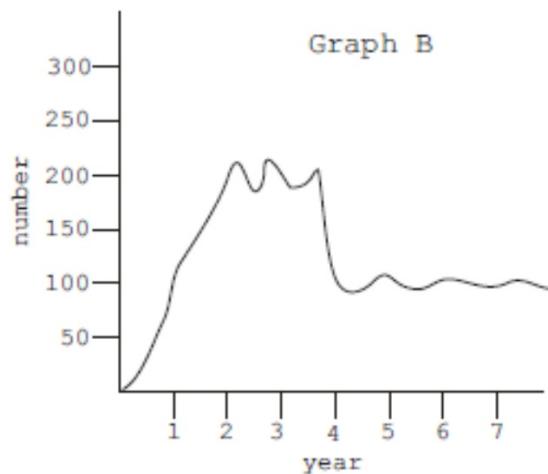
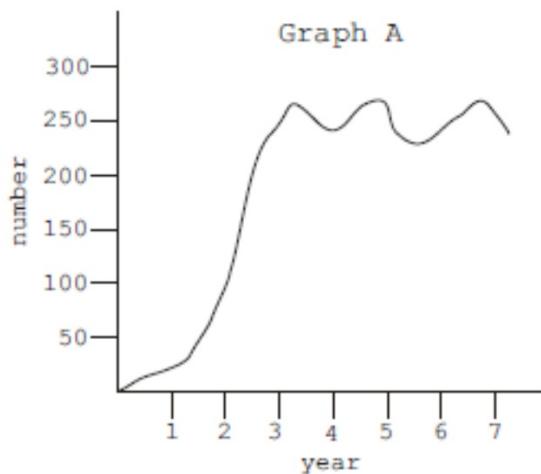
When the carrying capacity for a population suddenly drops, the population experiences a crash. A **population crash** is a dramatic decline in the size of a population over a short period of time. There are many reasons why a population might experience a crash.

Exponential growth vs logarithmic growth

max. # of individuals (1 species) an ecosystem can support

* increasing resource will increase carrying c.





FOR GRAPH A:

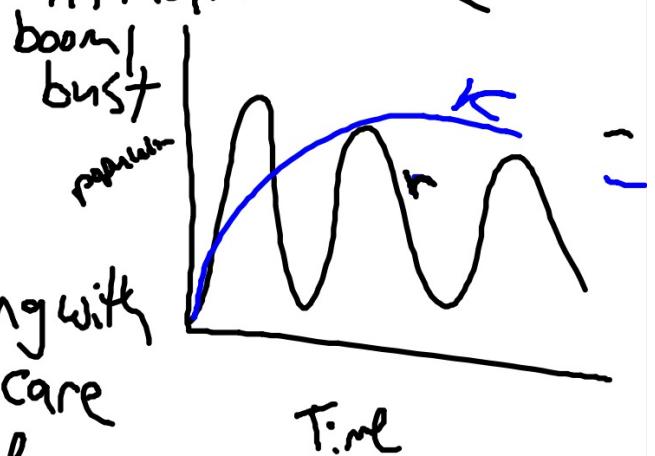
- What is the carrying capacity (approx.)?
- Approximately during which year did this population reach the carrying capacity of its ecosystem?
- About how many years did it stay at the carrying capacity?

FOR GRAPH B:

- What are the carrying capacities of this graph?
- How many years did this population spend at the first carrying capacity?
- During which year did it reach the next carrying capacity?
- Which carrying capacity is more stable? Why do you think so?

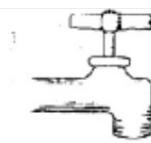
Reproductive strategies to sustain
a population

r-strategist - many young,
little/no care



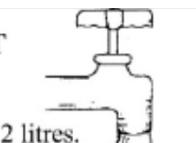
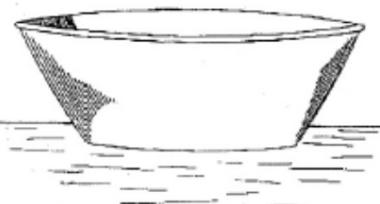
K-strategist

few young with
quality care
stable



THE FULL BUCKET

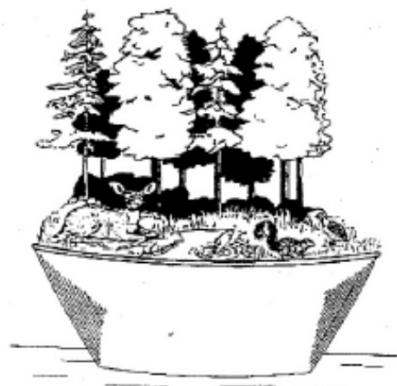
A 2-litre bucket holds only 2 litres.



LIKEWISE:

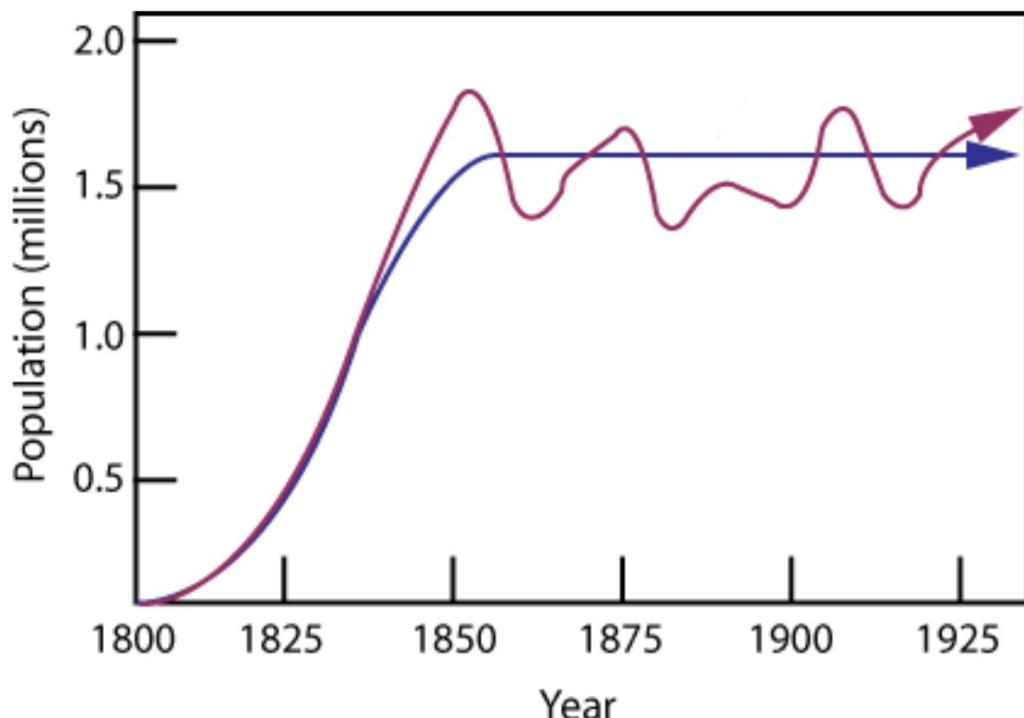
A given area of land or water supports only the number of animals whose needs for food, water, cover and living space are supplied.

Surplus fish and wildlife from breeding populations or stocking disappear or die.

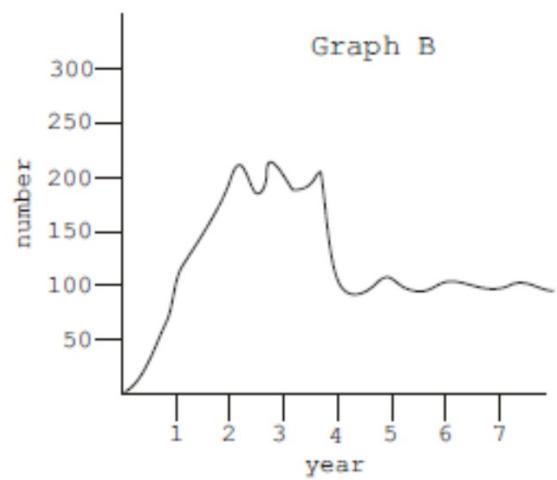
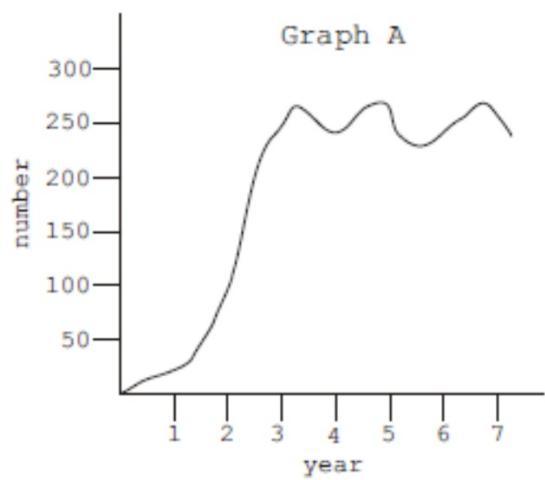


THIS IS CALLED CARRYING CAPACITY.

Kickoff:



1. What is the carrying capacity?
2. What are two factors that effect it's carrying capacity?



Modeling Predation

In this lab, you will model predation and the effects of changes in the environment on organisms. Blue herons are large birds that live in aquatic habitats and feed on fish, frogs, salamanders, lizards, small snakes, and dragonflies. You will model a lake filled with fish.

Problem: How do changes in environmental factors affect the predation habits of the blue heron? (Hint: make all of your data tables with titles in advance)

Experiment #1: Typical conditions (200 fish)
6 feedings per day for 6 days (36 feedings)

Experiment #2: Stressed condition (50 fish)
6 feedings per day for 6 days (36 feedings)

Experiment #3: Bountiful conditions (400 fish)
6 feedings per day for 6 days (36 feedings)

Procedure:

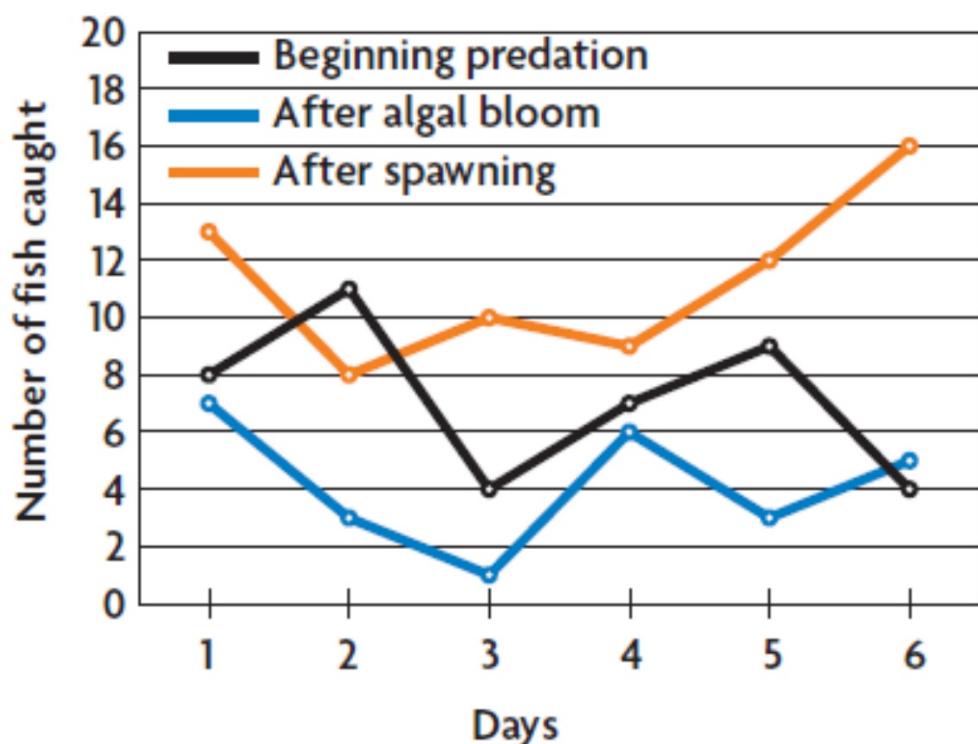
1. Spread 200 beads over the grid. The grid represents the lake from which the heron feeds, and the beads represent the fish.
2. A blue heron will catch an average of two fish per hour during the daylight. To model the heron hunting for fish, close your eyes and lower the end of the toothpick slowly down onto the grid.
3. Remove the beads that are in the square touching the toothpick. Count the beads.
4. Rearrange the remaining beads ("fish") across the grid ("lake"), and repeat steps 2-3 five more times to model one day's worth of feeding for the heron. Count the total number of beads removed, and record this number in a data table.
5. Repeat steps 2-4 five more times to represent six total days of feeding by the heron.
6. Return all of the removed beads to the grid. Runoff containing large amounts of nitrates causes an algal bloom in the lake. When the algae die and decomposition occurs, the oxygen level in the lake becomes very low, causing fish to die. Remove 150 beads from the grid. Repeat steps 2-5. Make a second data table and record your data.
7. Return all of the removed beads to the grid. The fish in the lake spawn during the spring. To model this, add another 200 beads to the grid. Repeat steps 2-5. Make a third data table and record your data.

Analyze and Conclude:

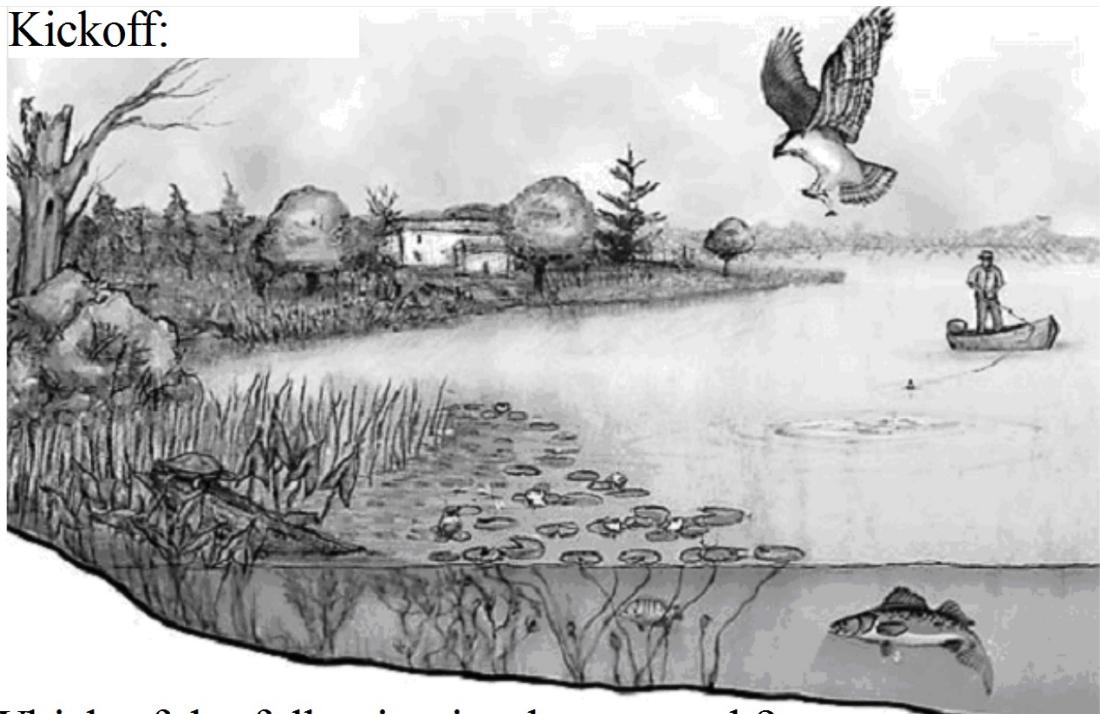
1. Construct a graph to represent your data.
2. How was the amount of food caught by a heron related to changes in biotic and abiotic factors?
3. How might abundant amounts of food allow herons to reproduce more often?
4. How would the populations of amphibians and small reptiles be affected if the fish population in the lake remained low for an extended period of time?

Work on lab

Predation Patterns of Blue Heron



Kickoff:



1. Which of the following is a heterotroph?
2. If the fisherman were to catch and eat the large fish (which eats small fish), the fisherman would be a _____.
3. What might be a possible food chain?
4. What might happen if the fisherman removed all of the big fish from the lake?

