

Review and Reinforce

Living Things and the Environment

Understanding Main Ideas

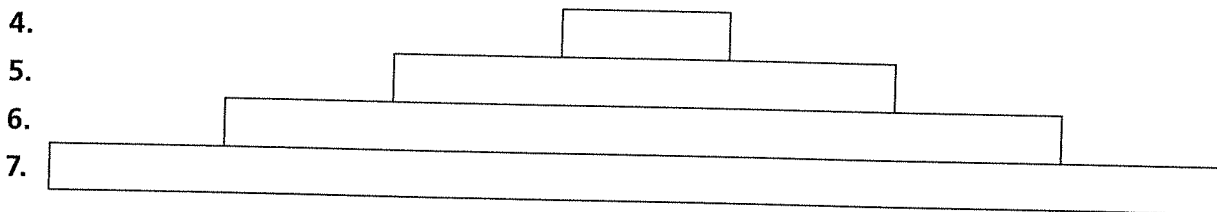
Answer the following questions in the spaces provided.

1. What is ecology?

2. Name four abiotic factors found in a prairie ecosystem.

3. Name three populations found in a prairie ecosystem.

Complete the table to show the levels of organization in an ecosystem. Start with the smallest unit.



Building Vocabulary

Fill in the blank to complete each statement.

- An environment that provides the things a specific organism needs to live, grow, and reproduce is its _____.
- All the living and nonliving things that interact in a particular area make up a(n) _____.
- The parts of an organism's environment that are living or once living, and interact with the organism are _____.
- All the different populations that live together in an area make up a(n) _____.

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Review and Reinforce

Populations

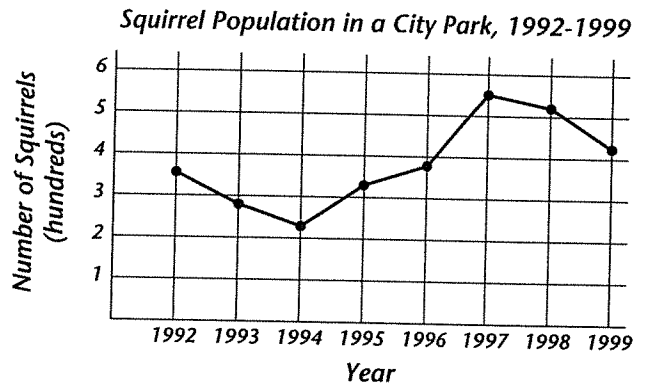
Understanding Main Ideas

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. A vegetable garden is 12 meters long by 7 meters wide. It is home to 168 mice. What is the population density of the mice?
2. What are two ways that the size of a population can increase? What are two ways that the size of a population can decrease?
3. Identify three limiting factors that can prevent a population from increasing. Explain how each factor limits a population's size.

The line graph below shows how the size of the squirrel population in a city park changed over time. Use the line graph to answer questions 4–6.

4. Over which time period(s) did the squirrel population increase?
5. Over which time period(s) did the squirrel population decrease?
6. In which year did the population reach its lowest point? What was the size of the population that year?



Building Vocabulary

Fill in the blank to complete each statement.

7. Moving into a population is called _____.
8. Moving out of a population is called _____.
9. The largest _____ an area can support is called the carrying capacity.
10. The number of individuals that die in a population in a certain time period is the _____.

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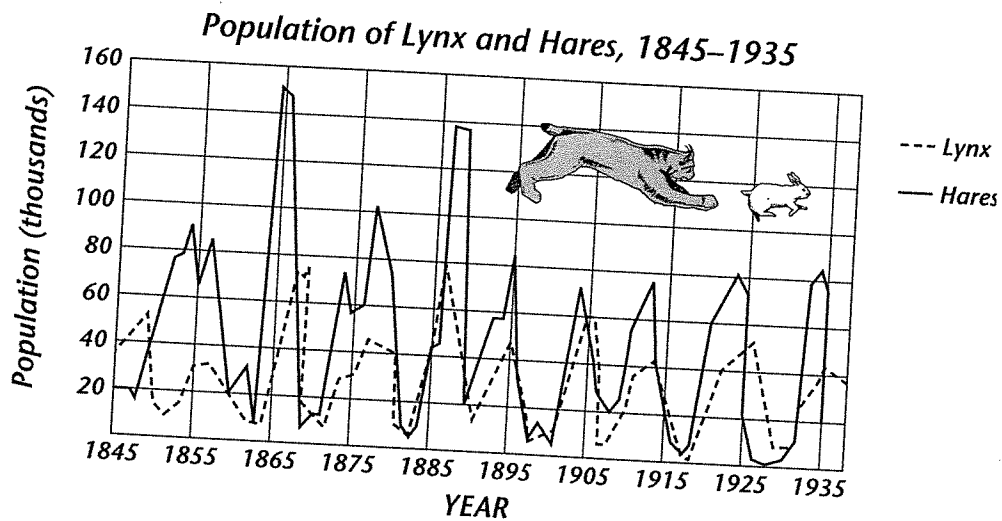
Interactions Among Living Things

Understanding Main Ideas

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. How does natural selection result in adaptations in a species?
2. What is an organism's niche?
3. How do adaptations help an organism to reduce competition for food and other resources?

The line graph below shows how the populations of lynx and snowshoe hares has changed over time. Use the line graph to answer questions 4–6.



4. When the hare population increased, what happened to the lynx population. Why?
5. How do you think an increase in the lynx population affected the hare population? Why?
6. What other factors could have caused a decrease in the hare population?

Building Vocabulary

On a separate sheet of paper, write a definition for each of these terms.

7. predator
8. competition
9. symbiosis

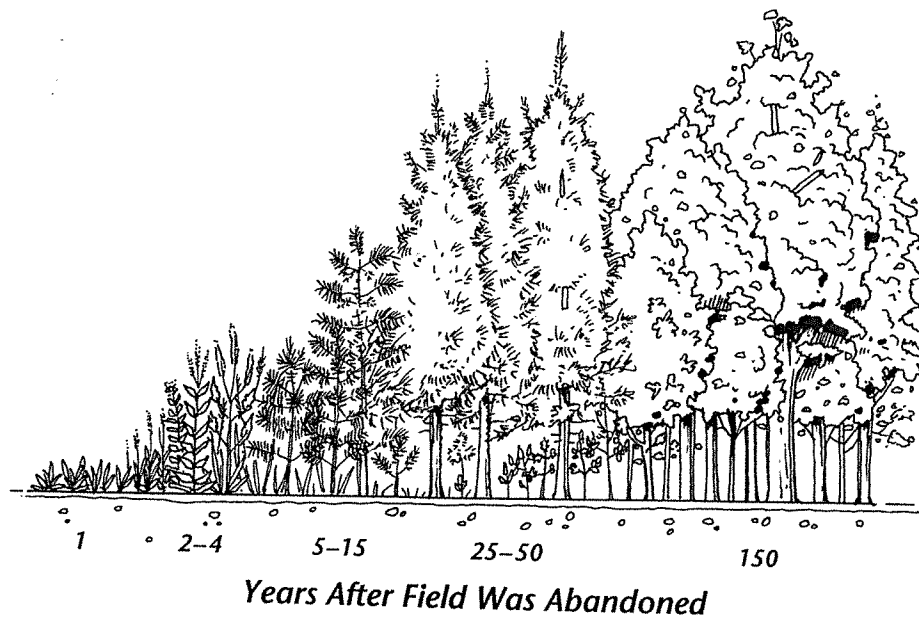
Review and Reinforce

Changes in Communities

Understanding Main Ideas

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What organisms are usually the pioneer species in a new area? How do these organisms prepare the area for other species?
2. The illustration below shows succession in an abandoned field. How did the plant populations in the community change over time?



Building Vocabulary

Identify each of the following as an example of primary succession or secondary succession. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

3. An old house was torn down. Small weeds and grasses grew in the vacant lot. Over the next few years, bushes and tree seedlings began to grow.

4. An undersea volcano erupted and formed a small island. Mosses and lichens began to grow on the bare volcanic rock.

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