

Darwin's Natural Selection Worksheet

Name _____

1) There are 2 types of worms: worms that eat at night (nocturnal) and worms that eat during the day (diurnal). The birds eat during the day and seem to be eating ONLY the diurnal worms. The nocturnal worms are in their burrows during this time. Each spring when the worms reproduce, they have about 500 babies but only 100 of these 500 ever become old enough to reproduce.

a. What worm has natural selection selected AGAINST? _____ FOR? _____



Natural Selection follows certain steps: explain how this scenerio follows those steps...

Population has variations. _____

Some variations are favorable. _____

More offspring are produced than survive. _____

Those that survive have favorable traits. _____

A population will change over time. _____

2.) There are two types of rabbits: those that strictly eat grass and those that strictly eat berries and flowers. A drought occurs one year, and the plants have difficulty producing any extras (flowers, berries, etc.). They can only try and keep themselves green. The rabbits have had babies all year long but many are eaten by foxes or hawks

Due to the drought, many have starved to death.

a. What rabbit will natural selection select AGAINST? _____ FOR? _____

Explain each from this scenerio:

Population has variations. _____

Some variations are favorable. _____

More offspring are produced than survive. _____

Those that survive have favorable traits. _____

A population will change over time. _____

3.) There are 3 types of polar bears: ones with thick coats, ones with thin coats and ones with medium coats. It is fall, soon to be winter. The temperatures are dropping rapidly and the bears must be kept warm, or they will freeze to death. Many of the bears have had ~2 cubs each but due to the extreme temperatures, many mothers only have one cub left.

a. What bear will natural selection select AGAINST? _____ FOR? _____



Darwin's 5 points: Identify the 5 points in the scenerio above.

Population has variations. _____

Some variations are favorable. _____

More offspring are produced than survive. _____

Those that survive have favorable traits. _____

A population will change over time. _____