

### Group Activity — Limiting Factors

This activity is to be completed in groups of 3 or 4.

Each of the statements below involves a situation that will affect the growth of a population. Classify each statement as DD (density dependent) or DI (density independent) and give a reason for your choice.

1. A lion and a cheetah attempt to live in the same area and hunt the same food. The more aggressive lion survives, the cheetah does not.

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2. Coyotes cross the winter pack ice and enter Newfoundland. The moose population starts to decline.

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3. A severe frost wipes out 50 percent of the coffee crop in Brazil.

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4. Careless smoking causes a forest fire, which destroys much of the wildlife in a region of northern Manitoba.

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5. Due to severe overcrowding in an Asian village, many children do not survive to reach adulthood.

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6. Since lynx prey on snowshoe hares, an increase in the hare population causes an increase in the lynx population.

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7. A severe flood in the Red River valley causes a decline in the deer population.

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8. Due to stress, large numbers of female lemmings miscarry their young and fail to reproduce.

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9. Travelers who visit a crowded African village become infected with a disease caused by parasites.

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10. Many fish die due to a change in the winds and the appearance of the El Niño ocean current off the coast of Peru and Chile.

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11. Rabbits in Australia have no natural enemies, so their population increases rapidly.

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12. Fish on a coral reef stake out their territory and chase away any younger fish that try to live there.

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13. The illegal dumping of industrial pollutants into a river causes a massive amount of fish to die.

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