

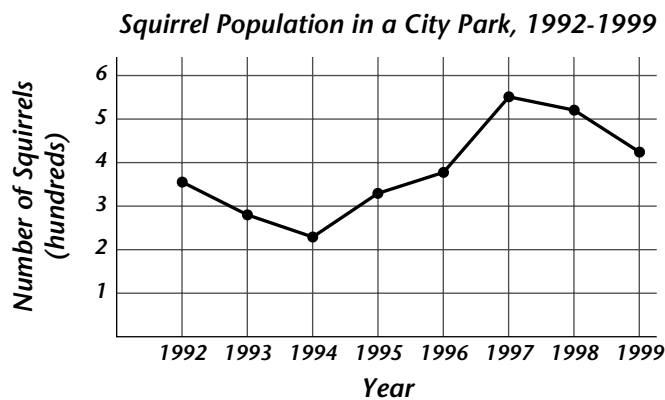
Ecosystems ▪ *Review and Reinforce*

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. In one square meter, you count two toads. Estimate the population of toads in the garden.
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?



The graph above shows how the size of the squirrel population in a city park changed over time. Use the graph to answer questions 3–5.

3. Over which time period(s) did the squirrel population decrease?
4. Over which time period(s) did the population increase?
5. In which year did the population reach its lowest point? What was the size of the population that year?
6. What causes a population to change in size?
7. Identify three limiting factors that can prevent a population from increasing. Explain how each factor limits a population's size.

Building Vocabulary

On a separate sheet of paper, define each of these terms in your own words.

8. limiting factor
9. carrying capacity
10. immigration