Population Size

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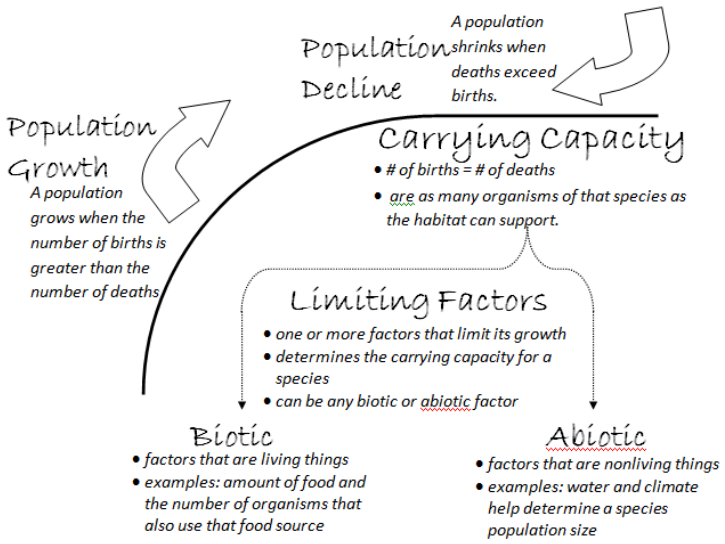
- Biotic and abiotic factors determine the population size.
    - Biotic factors include the amount of food avalible and the number of organisms that use this food.
    - Abiotic factors are temperature, space, water, and sunlight.
- For a population to grow, there must be enough resources and no major problems.
- A population may shrink if the biotic and the abiotic factors change.

Study Tip

The prefix a- means "not" or "opposite", and the root "bio" means alive. Thus, biotic factors are living factors, and abiotic factors are not.

Carrying Capacity

- The carrying capacity is when the number of births equals the number of deaths.
    - The carrying capacity is the greatest number of organisms of that species that the habitat can support.
    - The carrying capacity depends on biotic and abiotic factors of the habitat.



The size of a population is dependent on many different factors.

Limiting Factors

- Limiting Factors are the parameters that limit the growth of the population.
- The limiting factors determine the carrying capacity of a species.
- There are abiotic and biotic factors to how large of a population an environment can support.
- A **limiting factor** could be any abiotic or biotic factor.

Concept Check

- What is an example of an abiotic factor? A biotic factor?
- What does the carrying capacity mean?