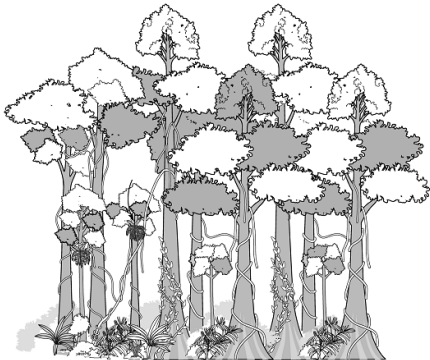


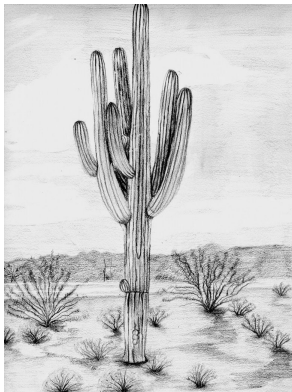

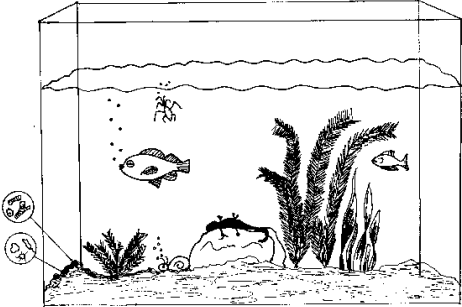


Ecosystem – Carrying Capacity and Limiting Factors

Limiting factors determine the types and numbers of organisms of a species in an ecosystem.

Examples of limiting factors are water, dissolved oxygen, food (energy), sunlight, predators, space, and temperature.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What do the trees need to survive?2. What is the main limiting factor for the trees? How do you know?
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. What is the main limiting factor for the fish population in the river? How do you know?
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. What do the grazing sheep need to survive?5. What is the main limiting factor for the grazing sheep? How do you know?
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. What do the desert plants need to survive?7. What is the main limiting factor for the desert plants? How do you know?

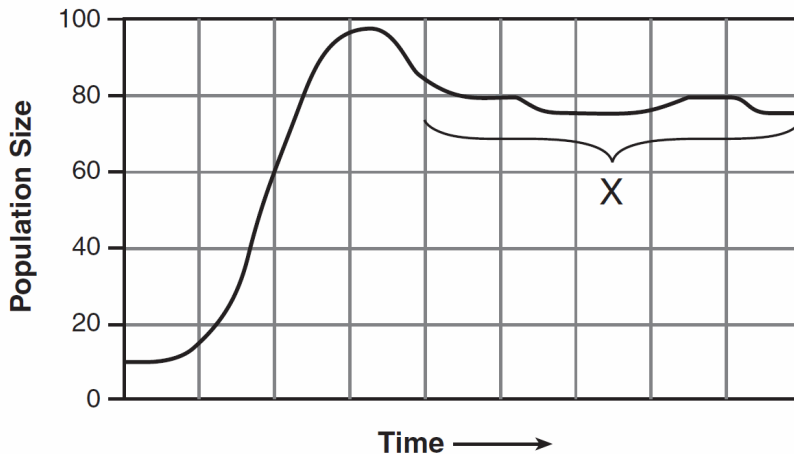
	<p>8. What do the plants in the pot need to survive?</p> <p>9. What is the main limiting factor for the plants in the pot? How do you know?</p>
	<p>10. What do fish in the aquarium need to survive?</p> <p>11. What is the main limiting factor for the fish in this aquarium? How do you know?</p>

Carrying capacity is the maximum number of organisms the resources of an ecosystem can support.



13. What could be a limiting factor for this deer population?

Changes in a Deer Population



14. Based on this graph, what is the **carrying capacity** (x) of the deer population in this ecosystem?

15. What might increase the carrying capacity of deer in this population?

