

Chapter 2 Summary

This chapter has explored the effects of environmental change on communities, populations, and individual organisms. Environmental change is both the reason for and the result of the process of succession. A population of organisms can change in both number and characteristics in response to its environment. The process of change within a population allows some organisms to live and others to perish. The survival of certain organisms within a population drives the process of evolution.

Human intervention in ecosystems is the leading cause of environmental change. The disturbances caused by human development make it difficult for organisms to obtain the resources necessary for survival. Making choices about how you use and develop natural resources can have both positive and negative effects on other organisms, ecosystems, and environments.



Summarize Your Learning

In this chapter you learned a number of new biological terms, processes, and theories. It will be much easier for you to recall and apply the information you have learned if you organize it into patterns.

Since the patterns have to be meaningful to you, there are some options about how you can create this summary. Each of the following options is described in “Summarize Your Learning Activities” on pages 552 and 553. Choose one of these options to create a summary of the key concepts and important terms in Chapter 2.

Option 1: Draw a concept map or a web diagram.	Option 2: Create a point-form summary.	Option 3: Write a story using key terms and concepts.	Option 4: Create a colourful poster.	Option 5: Build a model.	Option 6: Write a script for a skit (a mock news report).
--	--	---	--	------------------------------------	---

Chapter 2 Review Questions

Knowledge

- Describe the process of primary succession.
- List four examples of disturbances that could cause the process of secondary succession to begin.
- Explain two ways in which the process of secondary succession differs from the process of primary succession.
- Explain the difference between an open population and a closed population.
- Define *carrying capacity*.
- Use a labelled graph to describe the exponential growth of a population.
- Use a labelled graph to describe a population that has reached its carrying capacity.
- An owl is well adapted to a nocturnal hunting lifestyle. Explain how each of the following traits is an adaptation that makes the owl a more successful hunter.
 - the ability to fly
 - a sharp beak and talons
 - huge eyes
 - feathers that muffle the sound of flying

Photo Credits and Acknowledgements

All photographs, illustrations, and text contained in this book have been created by or for Alberta Education, unless noted herein or elsewhere in this Science 20 textbook.

Alberta Education wishes to thank the following rights holders for granting permission to incorporate their works into this textbook. Every effort has been made to identify and acknowledge the appropriate rights holder for each third-party work. Please notify Alberta Education of any errors or omissions so that corrective action may be taken.

Legend: t = top, m = middle, b = bottom, l = left, r = right

505 (photo illustration) Photodisc/Getty Images