

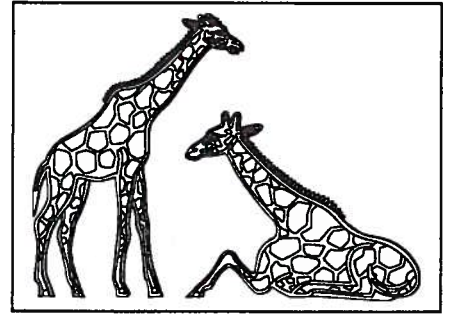
Natural Selection In Action

Scenario:

In the spring of 2010 there was a large herd of 120 giraffes living in the Savanna of Africa. There was plenty of food so few offspring died due to starvation. Within the herd, there were some giraffes that had long necks and there were some that had shorter necks (about 5" shorter).

When it was time for the rainy season, little rain came. The giraffes traveled hundreds of miles looking for food and water. Many of the short, young trees died off while the older, taller trees survived due to deeper roots.

What do you think will happen to some of the giraffes in this herd during this season? Be very specific as to which giraffes will be affected.



If the drought continues for several rainy seasons or years, what do you think will happen to the composition of the herd (do not say it will die off)?

Which part of this scenario represents the following parts of natural selection:

1. overproduction -

2. genetic variation -

3. struggle to survive -

4. successful reproduction -
