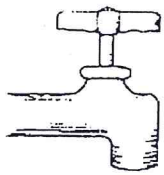
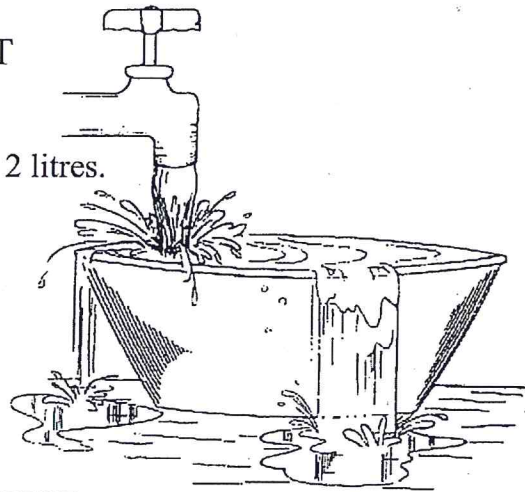
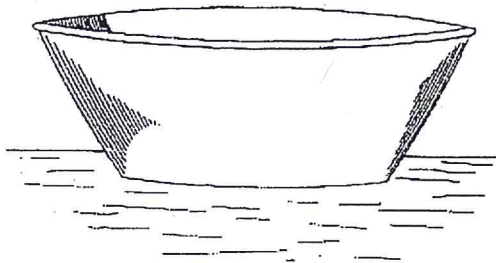


CARRYING CAPACITY



THE FULL BUCKET

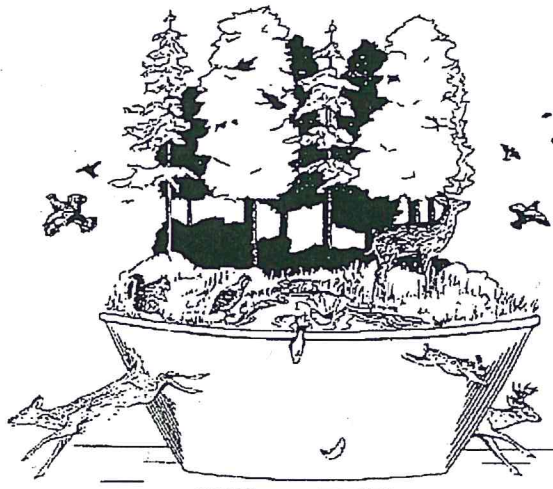
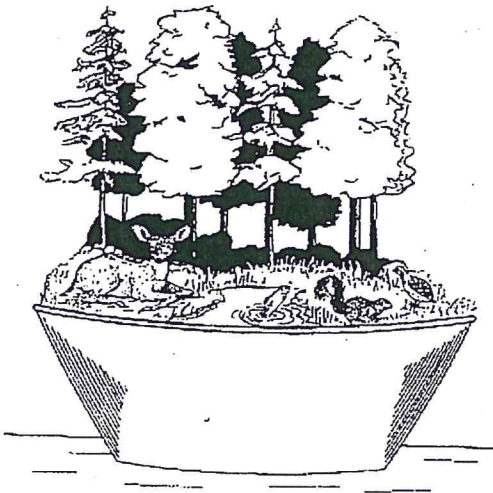
A 2-litre bucket holds only 2 litres.



LIKEWISE:

A given area of land or water supports only the number of animals whose needs for food, water, cover and living space are supplied.

Surplus fish and wildlife from breeding populations or stocking disappear or die.



THIS IS CALLED CARRYING CAPACITY.



Name _____ Per _____

CARRYING CAPACITY

QUESTIONS: (20)

- 1) Write your own definition of carrying capacity. (2)

- 2) On what does a carrying capacity depend? (3)

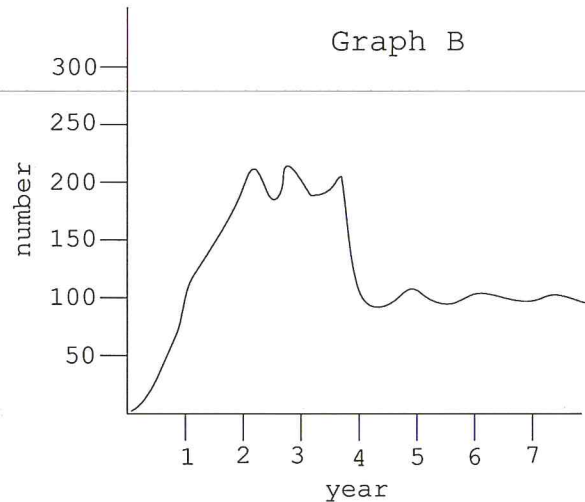
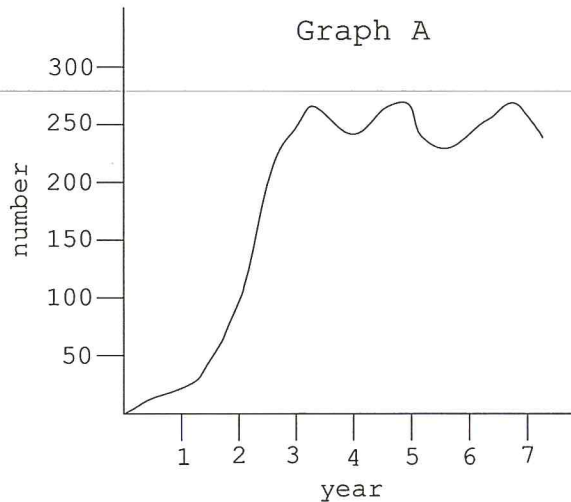
- 3) Can you think of other factors that may affect a carrying capacity? (2)

- 4) Refer to the following statement when answering the next questions. (4)
"The carrying capacity of this lake equals 150 minnows."
 - a) Can less than 150 minnows live in this lake?
 - b) Can more than 150 minnows live in this lake?
 - c) Let's say that there are 140 minnows in this lake when the amount of resources in this lake decreases and the carrying capacity drops from 150 to 100 minnows. What will happen to this minnow population? Why will this happen?



CARRYING CAPACITY

5) Refer to the following graphs for the next set of questions. (9)



FOR GRAPH A:

- What is the carrying capacity (approx.)?
- Approximately during which year did this population reach the carrying capacity of its ecosystem?
- About how many years did it stay at the carrying capacity?

FOR GRAPH B:

- What are the carrying capacities of this graph?
- How many years did this population spend at the first carrying capacity?
- During which year did it reach the next carrying capacity?
- Which carrying capacity is more stable? Why do you think so?