

Name _____

Date _____

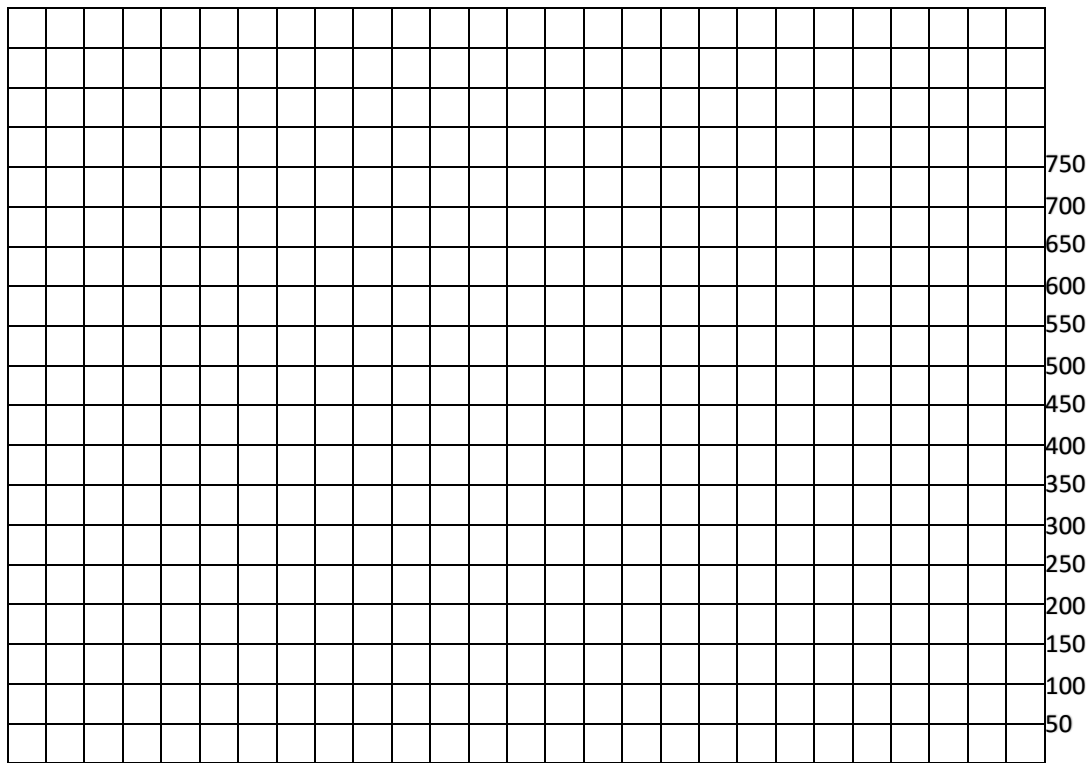
Predator Prey Graphing Activity

The population of hares and lynx from a small area in Canada were recorded from 1910 to 1960. The population size for each year is recorded in the table below.

	1910	1915	1920	1925	1930	1935	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1965	1970
Hares	6000	3500	16,000	8000	3000	9500	10,000	8500	9000	8000	4200	2000	1000
Lynx	350	200	360	400	200	180	250	350	280	400	450	400	200

Create a LINE graph of the data below. Use the checklist to ensure you have everything your graph needs.

- The independent variable is time (the year) and goes on the x-axis. Put the years on the graph (spread the years out).
- Label your x-axis.
- The dependent variable is the population size and goes on the y-axis. Put the hare population on the left side of the graph and count by 1000.
- Label your y-axis.
- The lynx population is done for you on the right side of the graph. Label this is of the graph.
- Give your graph a title that properly describes the information in the graph.
- Graph the population of hares in 1 color.
- Label your line or create a key.
- Graph the population of lynx is a different color.
- Label your line or add to your key.



1. Describe what happens to the lynx and hare populations over time. What pattern do you see?
2. Explain the relationship between the lynx and the hares.
3. Explain the pattern you see (from #1) and how it relates to the relationships in #2. This should be 2-3 sentences.
4. What will happen to the hares if the lynx is removed from the ecosystem?
5. What effect might this have on other things in the ecosystem?
6. Other than predators, what are some other limiting factors for the hares in the ecosystem?
7. What would happen to the lynx if the hares are removed from the ecosystem?
8. What effect might this have on other things in the ecosystem?
9. Other than their prey, what are some other limiting factors for the lynx in the ecosystem?