



The stork and the grim reaper

Population Balance Activity

Name _____ Date _____ Hour _____



The clear container represents the world, and the colored water in the bucket will represent people. The stork will be adding people to the world by pouring dippers of water into the container. The grim reaper will be taking people from the world by scooping water out of the clear container and pouring it back into the bucket. At this time, the world's birth rate is three times the death rate. Based on that fact, who receives the large dipper?



1. Why did the water level rise steadily?

Because the stork had a bigger cup.

2. What would this mean if the clear container really was the world?

Eventually, the water would overflow

3. What size would the grim reapers dipper have to be for the water level to stay the same?

Same size as the storks.

4. Throughout history, the Stork and Grim reaper's real life dippers were usually about the same size. But over the last 200 years, the Stork's dipper has grown much larger than the Grim Reaper's. What factors might contribute to this? What factors would cause a population to rise or fall?

Rise	Fall
<p>More babies (increased birth R8) Fewer deaths (Decrease death R8) Longer life expectancy Medical advancements Better Sanitation Greater food production Better Nutrition</p>	<p>Fewer babies (Decreased birth R8) More deaths (Increased death R8) Epidemic War Decreased food production</p>

5. Carrying Capacity:

Amount of people that a given area can support.

6. What is the carrying capacity of our classroom?

How much space does each person take up?

How much open space is needed to make class run smoothly?

Could you comfortably fit twice as many people in the classroom as you have now?