Let's Talk Ecosystems
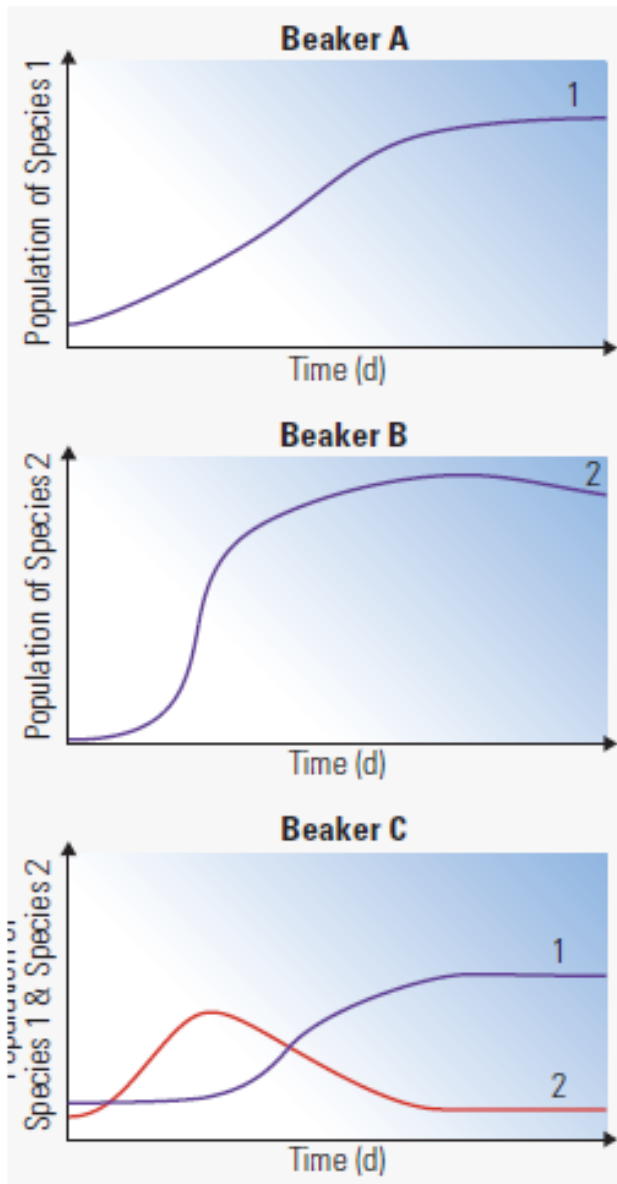
1. Define ecology in your own words.
2. For each ecosystem, list four biotic and four abiotic factors.
a) a freshwater ecosystem, such as a lake
b) a terrestrial ecosystem, such as a forest
3. a) Describe the difference between a population and a community. Give examples.
b) Describe the difference between a community and an ecosystem. Give examples.
4. Predict whether you would find more biodiversity in a forest, an open field, or the ecotone between them. Justify your prediction.
5. The graphs below show changes in populations of paramecia in three beakers.

a) Compare the growth of Species 1 in Beaker A with the growth of Species 2 in Beaker B.

b) What evidence suggests that the populations of *paramecia* affect each other?

c) Suggest a conclusion that can be drawn from the population changes in Beaker C.