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| M&M™s Statistics: Post-Lab Questions | Description:  logo black |

1. You have learned about 3 kinds of survivorship curves. Which type of curve do you think the M&M™s demonstrate?
2. What are the characteristics of organisms that demonstrate each type of survivorship?

Think about…

* number of hatchlings or births in type of organism
* how long parent cares for young
* length of time for the young to mature
* age (relative to typical lifespan) the organism is more likely to die

1. Type I survivorship curve?
2. Type II survivorship curve?
3. Type III survivorship curve?
4. Why might an ecologist want to construct a life table for a population? Consider the environmental factors that limit a population, examples would be age specific diseases, predators, changes in environment, etc.
5. What might be occurring if a population that typically shows a Type I survivorship curve starts to develop a Type II survivorship curve?
6. What might be occurring is a population that typically shows a Type III curve starts showing a Type II curve?
7. In human populations, do you think there would be a difference in survivorship curves between developed and developing countries? Why?
8. When first looking at the data, what general patterns do you notice?
9. Identify the oldest and the youngest death.
10. Is there an age interval that has an unusually high number of deaths?
11. Is there a difference in overall death rates of males vs. females?
12. Are there differences in age of death compared to year of birth?
13. Can you hypothesize about any outliers (data that doesn’t fit the pattern or seems incorrect)?
14. What do you wonder?
15. You will need to decide how you will sort data on the Excel spreadsheet. What do you want to compare/contrast?