

SC.912.L.15.13 – Natural Selection – Example 1 Answer

Over time, the climate of an island became drier, which resulted in changes to the populations of various island finch species. Finch populations with a certain beak shape thrived, while those not having that beak shape decreased. Which of the following describes a necessary condition for these changes in the finch populations to occur?

- A. fewer mutations**
- B. limited food resources**
- C. limited beak variations**
- D. overproduction of offspring**

Answer

- B. limited food resources

Limited resources are a major driving factor for natural selection. Since there was not enough food for all of the finches, the finches that had beaks which allowed them to get food more easily were more likely to survive and reproduce.