Natural Selection: Which guppies will survive?

John Endler, a researcher at the University of California Santa Barbara, created an experiment with guppies to observe any changes in the population over time. He created a pond environment, lined the bottom with fine gravel, added guppies, and added a predator. The guppies that he added

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had three different phenotypes for spots: large, medium, and small.

During the experiment the guppies had 15 generations of offspring.

After 15 generations he observed the population of guppies to look for any changes.

Name:

- Do you think that the population of guppies will change over time? Why?
- 2. What are three different things that can cause this population to evolve?
- 3. Explain how each of three things you stated in question #2 will cause the population to evolve.

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4. Which guppy phenotype (large, medium, or small spots) do you think will be the most common after 15 generations? Why?

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