**Oh Deer!**

Purpose: To identify the essential components of habitat, describe factors that influence carrying capacity, and define limiting factors, recognize that some fluctuations in wildlife populations are natural.

Pre-activity:

1. What is **carrying capacity**? Write in your own words:
2. **Limiting Factors:** Factors within the environment which \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ maximum development, growth, or activity of a species. Examples: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. **Competition:** The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to obtain food, water, or shelter.
4. Four essential components of a **habitat:**

*Leave your paper inside while you do the activity!*

1. **Graphing:** Use the class data to graph what happened to the deer population throughout the activity.

**Deer Population over Time**

6. What does this graph tell you about normal deer populations?

7. Why is a good habitat important for wildlife populations?