

Name _____

Human Population and Carrying Capacity WebQuest

This activity is designed for you to see how the population of the Earth continues to change over the course of time. At some point in time the carrying capacity of the Earth may be reached. Use the links below to discover more about the human carrying capacity as well as to answer the corresponding questions. **ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF NOTEBOOK PAPER!!**

Click here: <http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/popclockworld.html>

1. What is the current world population?

Click here: <http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/popclock>

2. What is the exact time right now?
3. What is the U.S. population right now?

Click Here: <http://www.demographia.com/db-2000stater.htm>

4. Where is California ranked among state populations?
5. What percent of people in the US live in California?

Click Here: http://www.worldfactsandfigures.com/complete_list.php

Navigate around this website and answer the questions below.

6. Where does the US rank among the nations of the world in terms of population?
7. Where does the US rank for life expectancy at birth?
8. What is the life expectancy at birth in the US?
9. Which country has the highest life expectancy at birth and which has the lowest?

Click on the topic "Animated Map" and watch. <http://desip.igc.org/mapanim.html>

10. Where in the world did the human population appear to start?
11. What was the world population in 1985?
12. What is the expected world population in 2020?

Most countries are trying to reduce their growth rate. Zero population growth means that as many people are being born as there are dying. To achieve zero population growth, each couple would need to have no more than two children (to replace the parents). Even if this number is achieved, the population will continue to grow because the parents will still live on for decades, as their children have children, and their children have children.....

The rate of growth in developed nations has become more constant in recent years, while many developing nations are still growing exponentially.

Name

Click Here for a list of least developed countries: <http://www.un.org/special-rep/ohrls/ldc/list.htm>

13. Select three countries from the list and find the following data:

- a. Country:
- b. Population:
- c. Surface area:
- d. Population density:

Click On the U.S.A. on this map: <http://www.cyberschoolbus.un.org/infonation/index.asp>

14. Record the following data for the U.S.

- a. Population:
- b. Surface area:
- c. Population density:

Click Here for a link to see the effects of Human Population: <http://www.iisd.org/ic/info/ss9506.htm>

15. Name 5 stresses the Human Population is currently putting on the Earth.

16. What effects could these stresses have on the Earth and how can these affect your life?

Click on the link <http://www.overpopulation.org/solutions.html>

Scroll down to where it says "Human Behaviors Said to Make Things Worse"

17. Read all of the behaviors that human do that impact the Earth and "make things worse". In your opinion which of these is the worst behavior humans do to impact the Earth. Why? **You must explain your answer.**

Go back to the US population data: <http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/popclock>

18. What is the exact time right now?

19. How many minutes have elapsed since you answered question # 2?

20. What is the US population right now?

21. What was the gain in US population while you have been working on this activity?

24. What has been the gain in population per minute over this activity? Show your work.

25. What was the population gain per second over this activity?