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Population Specialist Guide Sheet

Learning Quest

You do not need to do a Learning Quest at this time.

Data Collection

You are responsible for collecting data about the **white-tailed deer** and the **wolf**.

1. Measure the deer population on Dover Island for each of the dates from 1975 to 2020.
2. Measure the deer and wolf populations on Willis Island for each of the dates from 1975 to 2020.

Deer

	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Dover										
Willis										

Wolf

	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Dover	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Willis										

Observations and Notes

1. Read the **field guide** pages about the white-tailed deer.
 - a. What do deer like to eat?
 - b. What likes to eat deer?
 - c. Write down notes that might help you figure out reasons for changes in the deer population.

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2. Use the **data view** graph to look at the deer population data you collected on **Dover Island**.
 - a. Describe how it changes over time.

 - b. Write down your ideas about why the deer populations might have changed in this way.

3. Use the **data view** graph to look at the deer and wolf population data you collected on **Willis Island**.
 - a. Describe how they change over time.

 - b. Write down your ideas about why the deer and wolf populations might have changed in this way.

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Collaboration

1. What happens to the plants that deer like to eat? Work with the **Botanist** on your team to answer this question. (Hint - use the data view graphs to look for changes in shrubs, trillium, and ferns over time.) Write down your ideas.
2. Does the size of the deer population on the island affect the risk of Lyme disease? Work with the **Public Health Worker** on your team to answer this question. (Hint: compare the Lyme disease risk to the population graphs for the deer and small mammals). Write down your ideas.