

Conceptual Biology

Chapter 8: Natural Selection

Natural Selection

- On a tropical island, there lives a species of bird called the Sneezlee bird. Sneezlee birds eat seeds. Sneezlee birds also show variation in beak size. Some Sneezlee birds have bigger beaks, and some have smaller beaks.



- Draw a box around the bird with the biggest beak.
 - Put a check mark by the bird with the smallest beak.
- One year, there are not many seeds available for Sneezlee birds due to a drought in the summer. Small seeds are quickly eaten by the Sneezlee birds. Only larger, tougher seeds are left. Sneezlee birds with larger, stronger beaks are better at cracking these larger seeds.



- Draw a box around the two birds most likely to survive the drought.
 - Mark X's through two Sneezlee birds that are more likely to die.
- Beak size is a heritable trait. Parent birds with larger, stronger beaks tend to have offspring with larger, stronger beaks. How would the Sneezlee bird population evolve due to the drought?
