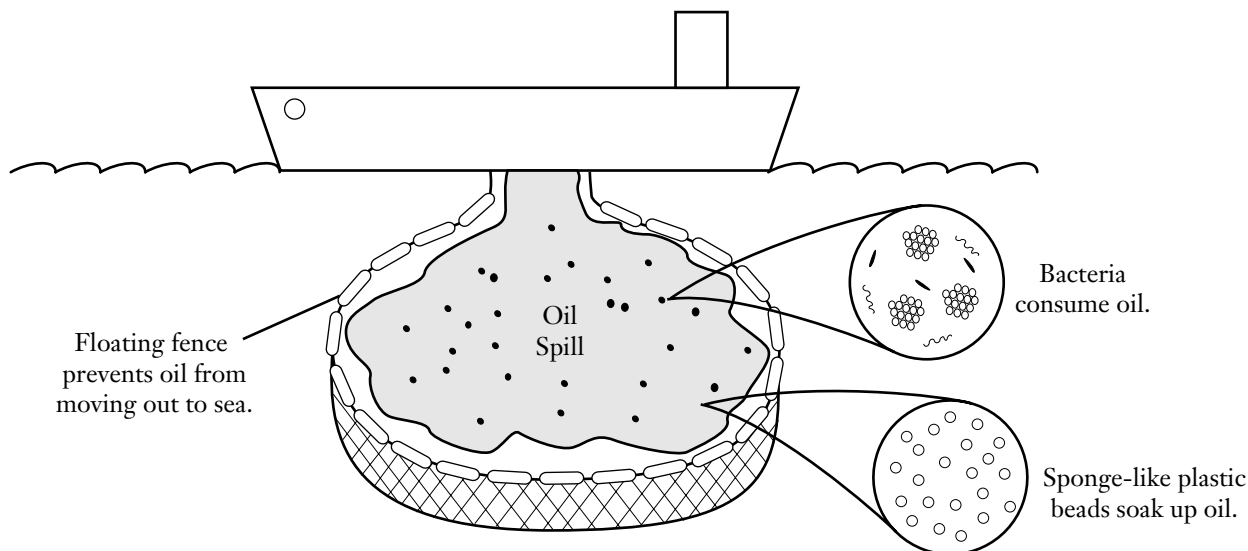


CHAPTER 43 BIOLOGY AND THE FUTURE

Technology and Society: Keeping the Balance Complete the Table

Look at the diagram and read the paragraph in the box. Then complete the table. Part of the table has been filled in to help you get started.



Many fields of science are involved in solving large environmental problems. When a ship accidentally spills oil into the ocean, chemists, physicists, biologists, and geologists all have solutions to contribute to limit the damage to the environment. Chemists have developed small beads that are full of holes. These beads can be deposited on an oil spill, where they act like little sponges to soak up the oil. The beads are then collected, taking the oil with them. Physicists have designed floating, flexible fences that are placed around oil spills. These fences help keep the oil from spreading away from the source of the spill. Biologists have developed methods to use large populations of naturally occurring bacteria to consume the oil. Geologists study underground rock layers to understand how spilled oil affects water sources that often spring from these layers. All these scientists have developed ways to clean up the coastlines and underwater sand after oil is spilled.