NAME DATE CLASS

Chapter 11

REINFORCEMENT

Use with Section 2

• Unity of Life

Read the following paragraph. Then answer the questions below on the lines provided. Use complete sentences.

Imagine this situation: In a population of moths, half were light-colored and half were dark-colored. The environment where the moths lived had trees with light-colored trunks and trees with dark-colored trunks. When the light-colored moths landed on the light-colored tree trunks, the moths blended in with the tree trunks. This kept the moths hidden from predators, such as birds. When the dark-colored moths landed on the dark-colored tree trunks, they also blended in. Over time, all the light-colored trees died from disease.

1. Which color of moth do you think is more likely to survive in the new environment? Explain your answer.

2. How do you think the moth population will change over time?

3. According to the process of natural selection, how will the moths pass on their traits?

Read the following paragraph. Then answer the questions below on the lines provided. Use complete sentences.

Squirrels live on three different islands in the middle of a lake. These squirrels used to be part of the same species. Now the squirrel populations on each island are separate species.

4. Form a hypothesis about how the separate squirrel species formed.

5. What could scientists learn by comparing DNA from each species of squirrel?