Period/Class_____ Date_____



Claim-Evidence-Reasoning-Page 1 Student's Edition

Question: How does climate change (lower pH and higher temperatures) affect feeding, growth and interaction between species in the intertidal?

Claim (answers the question)	It is complicated. Most species will likely grow less shell and tissue in high CO_2 , lower pH conditions. Species had a mixed response to higher temperatures; some may do better and some may do worse. The presence of predators (crabs) affected feeding, shell and tissue growth in some cases as much or more than lower pH and higher temps, especially in whelks. If species, like crabs, are stressed by lower pH, mussels may do better in those conditions because of the effect on their predators.			
Evidence	Crabs	Whelks		Abalone
(scientific data that supports the claim)	Feeding: Crabs ate less mussels (~0.4 g less mussels per hour) in high CO ₂ conditions. They ate more mussels in heated conditions. Mortality: More crabs died (up to 0.6 crabs) in high CO ₂ conditions than other conditions. A lower number of crabs died in heated conditions.	Feeding: ate less mussels (~0.3 g less mussel tissue per week) with crabs present. Caged whelks ate more mussels with crabs present (~1.0 g mussel tissue per week) than uncaged (~0.1 g mussel tissue per week). Added heat or CO_2 didn't make a significant difference on feeding rate.	Shell growth: Uncaged whelks grew more shell with no crabs Present-0.4g-0.5g Versus 0.1 g with crabs present regardless of added heat or CO ₂ . Caged whelks grew much more with crabs Present (0.4-0.6 g) than uncaged (0.1 g). Added heat or CO ₂ didn't make a significant difference on shell growth.	Feeding: ate less (~0.1 cm2 seaweed per day) with crabs present. Abalones ate more (~0.1- 0.2 cm ² seaweed per day) in heated conditions. Added CO ₂ didn't have much of an effect. Shell growth: Abalones grew less (~0.01-0.02 g shell) in added CO ₂ conditions. Presence of crabs or added heat didn't have much of an effect.
Reasoning (describes why the evidence supports the claim)	affected during the in CO2 (lower pH) conditi the presence of crabs more than higher tem crabs present and mor	whelks, abalone) grew levestigation. Crabs had ons. They ate more in h affected feeding and sh perature and added CO re in heated conditions. 7 they grew less shell in	ss shell and tissue. Feed higher mortality and fe higher temperatures. W hell growth, especially u 2 (lower pH). Abalone a Added CO2 (lower pH) d	ed less in added lith whelks, ncaged whelks, ite less with



Date___

Identify and Interpret (I²)-Page 2 Student's Edition



Caption: This line graph shows the temperature of Monterey Bay sea water over the 10-weeks of the investigation. The x-axis shows that temperature was measured over time between April 14 and June 23. The y-axis shows temperature from 12-18 °C (54-64 °F) which the natural temperature of the sea water fluctuated between. There was one peak of warm water between May 12-19. The temperature of the water naturally goes up and down in 2-3°C range.

Questions I have: Why does the temperature of the bay naturally go up and down so much? Why was the water so warm between May 12-19?





low pH varied by about 0.2-0.3 pH and followed similar pattern What it means: Scientists engineered a

way to add carbon dioxide to increase acidity (lower pH) in a way that mirrored many natural fluctuations over the two-month period. pH of sea water is expected to drop this much by 2100 due to carbon pollution.

Caption: This line graph shows the pH of sea water (Monterey Bay sea water and sea water with carbon dioxide added) used during the 10-week investigation. The x-axis show weekly dates from April 14-June 23 and the time within which pH was measured. pH ranged between 7.2 and 8.2 and was slightly basic. pH varied naturally by .2-.4 pH over the 10 weeks. There were a couple of dips between April 28 and May 5 and June 2 and June 9. The pH was .3-.4 units lower than other times. The control water (natural Monterey Bay sea water) and low pH sea water (carbon dioxide added) varied by about .2-.3 units pH. Scientists engineered a way to add carbon dioxide to increase acidity (lower pH) in a way that mirrored natural fluctuations. The pH of sea water is expected to drop this much by 2100 due to carbon pollution.

Questions I have: Why does pH vary so much naturally? Is it tides, weather conditions or some other factors? How does the pH vary seasonally or yearly? Does it relate to water temperature?



Sample Caption: will vary based on what students observe. This bar graph shows average crab mortality during the 10-week investigation. The most crabs died (almost 0.8 crabs) in high CO_2 , nonheated treatments/situations. Mortality was lowest (less crabs died) in no added CO_2 treatments/situations. The most crabs died in high CO_2 treatments/situations regardless of heated water or not.

Questions I have: Crabs don't have shells like abalones, whelks or mussels. They have exoskeletons. Why does high CO2 make it harder for them to survive?



whelks ate much less (0.1-0.4 g mussel tissue per week) with crabs present

Caption: Will vary. This bar graph shows how many grams of mussel tissue per week the caged whelks ate during the 10week investigation. The higher white bars indicate the uncaged whelks ate more grams of mussel tissue per week when there were no crabs no matter if water was heated or CO_2 added. All of the gray bars and white bars are closer together than in the previous graph. This means caged whelks were less affected by the presence of crabs than the uncaged whelks. The y-axis of this graph goes from 0-1.8 g mussel tissue per week in caged whelk graph versus 0-0.6 gr mussel tissue for uncaged whelks. Caged whelks ate much more than uncaged whelks regardless of treatment/situation (added CO_2 or warmer temp), the cage might have made them feel safer/more likely to feed in the presence of crabs.

Hi CO₂ Control Hi CO₂ Control

D

graph

What it means: caged

whelks ate much more than uncaged whelks

treatment/situation

(added CO2 or warmer

temp), the cage might

safer/more likely to feed in the presence of crabs

have made them feel

regardless of

0.2

0



Caption: Will vary depending on what students observe. However, they should include what the graph shows which is how many grams of shell uncaged whelks grew during the 10-week investigation. They should also notice that uncaged whelks grew significantly more shell (between 0.1-0.5 g) when no crabs were present. Heat or added CO_2 didn't make much difference compared to the presence of crabs. (There was a slight difference when crabs were present-the whelks grew less shell in heated treatments versus unheated though not much less.)

Questions I have: Why did the whelks grow similar amounts in no crab heated and no crab high CO2 treatments?



Caption: Will vary depending on what students observe. However, they should include what the graph shows which is how many grams of shell caged whelks grew during the 10-week investigation. They should also compare this graph (caged whelks) to the previous (uncaged whelks) graph. They'll notice that the presence of crabs affected shell growth for caged (protected) whelks much less than for uncaged whelks.

Questions I have: Why did the caged whelks in high CO2 conditions grow more in the presence of crabs than they did with no crabs present? Would that occur in a second investigation or just an unusual result?



present, abalones ate the most seaweed in high CO_2 , heated conditions

Caption: Will vary depending on what students observe. However, they should include what the graph shows which is how much seaweed (cm2 seaweed per day) abalones ate during the 10-week investigation. Abalones did eat more with no crabs present regardless of added heat or added CO2. With or without crabs present, abalone ate the most seaweed in high CO2, heated conditions

Control

Hi CO₂ Control Hi CO₂ Control

Hastad

Questions I have: Why did abalones eat more in heated, high CO2 conditions?

0.2

0



Caption: Will vary depending on what students observe. However, they should include what the graph shows which is how much shell (g) abalones grew during the 10-week investigation. The presence of a crab didn't seem significant to an abalone's shell growth. Added CO2 seemed to affect shell growth the most (less shell grown in added CO2 conditions).

Questions I have: none

CO2



Why does the temperature of the bay naturally go up and down so much? Why was the water so warm between May 12-19?

The temperature goes up and down depending on three things: the tide, changes in air temperature, and the wind. The wind is most important, because a wind from north to south causes upwelling, which brings cold water up from depth along the shoreline. Wind from south to north causes downwelling, which brings warmer water from the surface of the ocean in towards shore. So, changes in wind direction alter water temperatures. Most likely, May 12-19 were warm days with the wind coming from the south.

Why does pH vary so much naturally? Is it tides, weather conditions or some other factors? How does the pH vary seasonally or yearly? Does it relate to water temperature? Like with temperature, pH of this water depends largely on the wind conditions, tide, and time of day. During the day, algae and phytoplankton (plants) use CO_2 , increasing the pH slightly. At night, the opposite happens. The pH in estuaries is usually lower than the ocean, so when the tide is going out and the estuary water is flowing into the ocean, pH can be lower. The largest difference in this location is based on wind--when the wind blows from north to south, it pushes surface water offshore and pulls water up from deep along the coast (this is called upwelling). Because in the deep sea there are no plants to take up CO_2 (but lots of animals to produce CO_2), the deep water has lots of CO_2 and lower pH. So, when upwelling brings this deep water to the surface, the surface pH drops.

Crabs don't have shells like abalones, whelks or mussels. They have exoskeletons. Why does high CO₂ make it harder for them to survive?

Like us, crabs maintain an internal balance of pH, which is required for many of our bodily processes (e.g. enzyme function, neural function). When the ocean pH is lower, crabs must actively pump in bicarbonate ions to buffer their internal pH (this binds to the free H+ ions). So, the lower the ocean pH is, the more energy the crabs must spend pumping ions in to maintain their internal equilibrium (and less energy to spend on finding food and growing). But, the overall impact of pH on crabs is not well understood.

Why did whelks grow similar amounts in no crab heated and no crab high CO₂ treatments?

Good question! We don't really know. Some snails are better than others at being able to produce shell material even under acidified conditions. It is likely due to the microstructure of their shell (all shells are different at the microscopic level), but we don't know for sure.

Why did the caged whelks in high CO₂ conditions grow more in the presence of crabs than they did with no crabs present? Would that occur in a second investigation or just an unusual result?

The lines on the top of each bar are standard error bars--when these overlap (as they do for the bars you are asking about), this indicates that the difference between treatments is not statistically significant. So, there is no evidence for an actual difference in whelk shell growth between crab and no crab conditions there. What you could point out is just that data are messy--when you are doing biological experiments, there are a lot of things going on and affecting the animals other than just what you are controlling. This is why results can be challenging to interpret.

Why did abalones eat more in heated, high CO₂ conditions?

As before, it isn't a significant difference, so we can't really draw any conclusions about that.