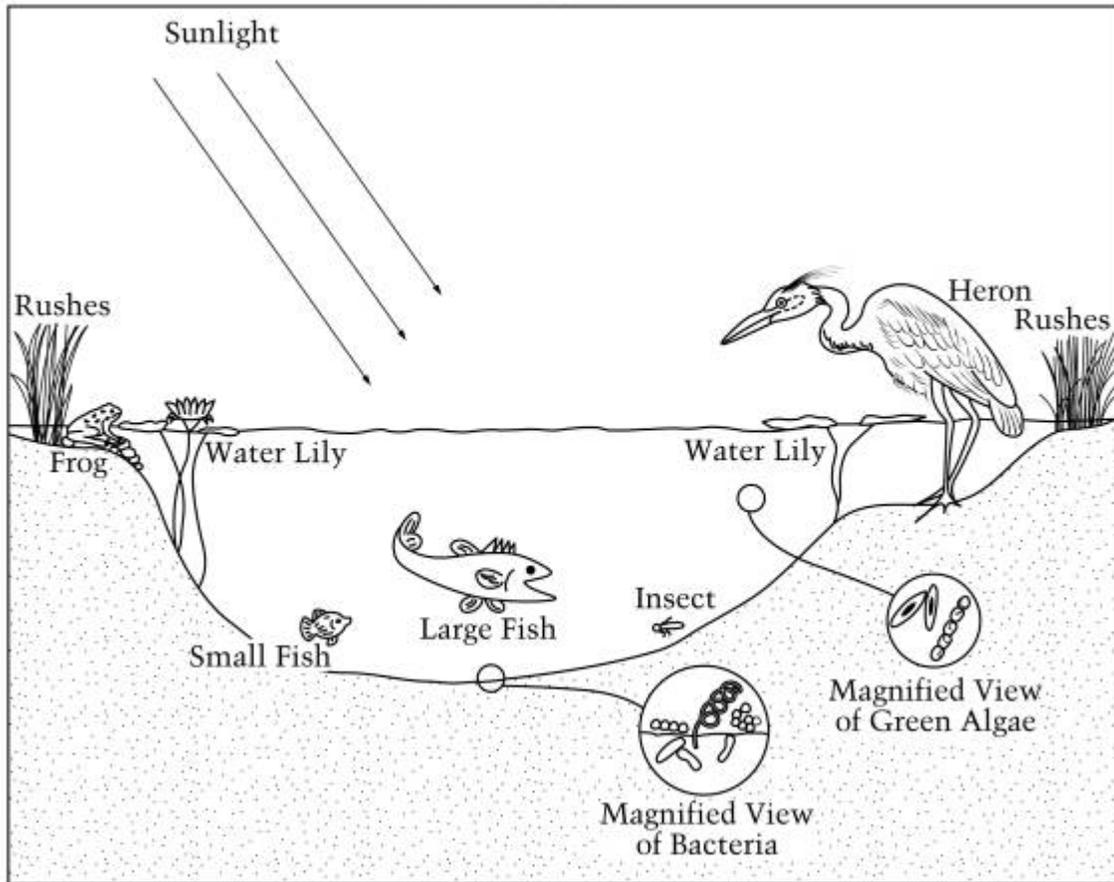


The picture below shows a pond ecosystem. Use this picture and what you know about the things in it to answer the questions in this section.

### POND ECOSYSTEM



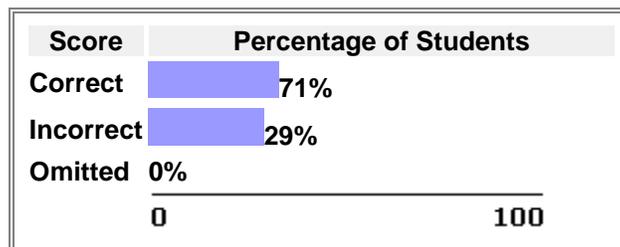
1. If air pollution causes the rain that falls on this pond to become much more acidic, after two years how will this acidity affect the living things in this pond?
- A) There will be more plants and animals because the acid is a source of food.
  - B) There will be fewer plants and animals because the acid will dissolve many of them.
  - C) There will be fewer plants and animals because many of them cannot survive in water with high acidity.
  - D) There will be more plants and animals because the acid will kill most of the disease-causing microorganisms.

Question 1

**Key**

1. If air pollution causes the rain that falls on this pond to become much more acidic, after two years how will this acidity affect the living things in this pond?
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**2000 National Performance Results**



Note:

- These results are for public and nonpublic school students.
- Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

**The Fields of Science:** *Life Sciences* (Sub content classification: *Ecology*)  
**Knowing and Doing Science :** *Conceptual Understanding*

## **The Fields of Science**

### ***Life Sciences***

This question measures basic knowledge and understanding of the following:

## **Knowing and Doing Science**

### ***Conceptual Understanding***

Conceptual understanding includes the body of scientific knowledge that students draw upon when conducting a scientific investigation or engaging in practical reasoning. Essential scientific concepts involve a variety of information, including facts and events the student learns from both science instruction and experiences with natural environment; and scientific concepts, principles, laws, and theories that scientists use to explain and predict observations of the natural world.