

BAR GRAPHING ACTIVITY

We recommend that students begin this activity on Day 2 of the classroom experiment. Students will count the number of embryos and the number of hatched fish in their Petri dishes. They fill in the data collected as their daily recording (X axis). Each day the students will draw two bar graphs representing the total number of embryos and the total number of larvae for Day 2 through Day 5 (Y axis).

Instruct the students to interpret the data by answering the questions at the bottom of the journal page. Discuss different possibilities why the number of embryos decreased each day. Prompt the students to consider that each day embryos expired and were removed from the Petri dish with the pipette as well as some viable embryos may have been inadvertently removed at the time of cleaning.

Tips for Counting Embryos & Larvae

On a blank piece of paper draw two perpendicular lines (Diagram 1). Place the Petri dish on the center of the cross that was drawn. The contents of the Petri dish will be viewed as four separate quadrants (Diagram 2). *[Note: Your outreach educator may bring pre-made handouts with these quartered circles]* Count each quadrant separately. Keep an individual count of the embryos and the hatched larvae. Once each quadrant is counted, the students should add each of the quadrant totals together to find the sum of number of embryos and the sum of number of hatched larvae. Have students record their data in the charts on each day's observation page, and compile each day's data as a bar graph in their journals, or on a copy of the next page.

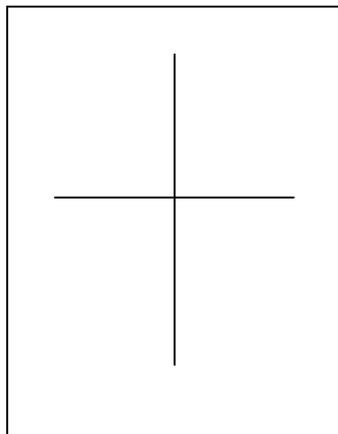


Diagram 1

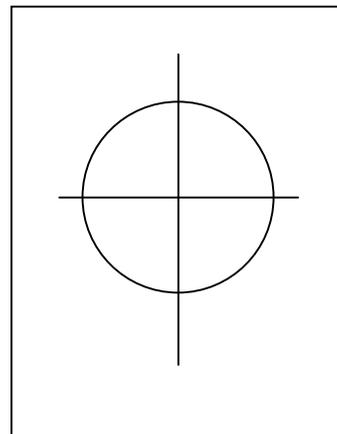
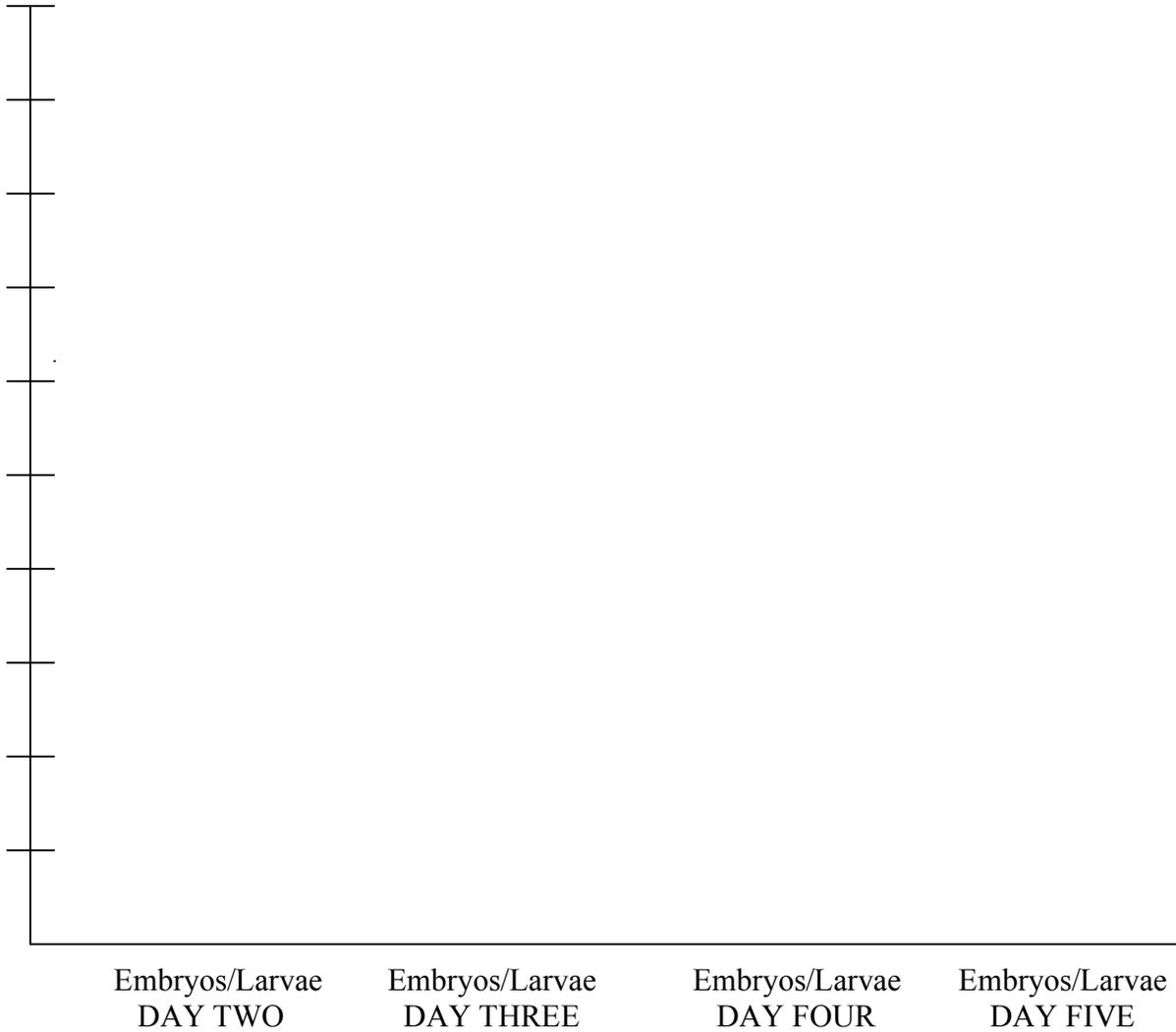


Diagram 2

ZEBRAFISH BAR GRAPH



TOTAL
EMBRYOS + LARVAE _____

Data Questions:

1. Why did the number of embryos decrease each day? _____

2. On which day did the larvae first begin to hatch? _____

3. How many offspring fish did you start with? How many offspring fish did you end with?