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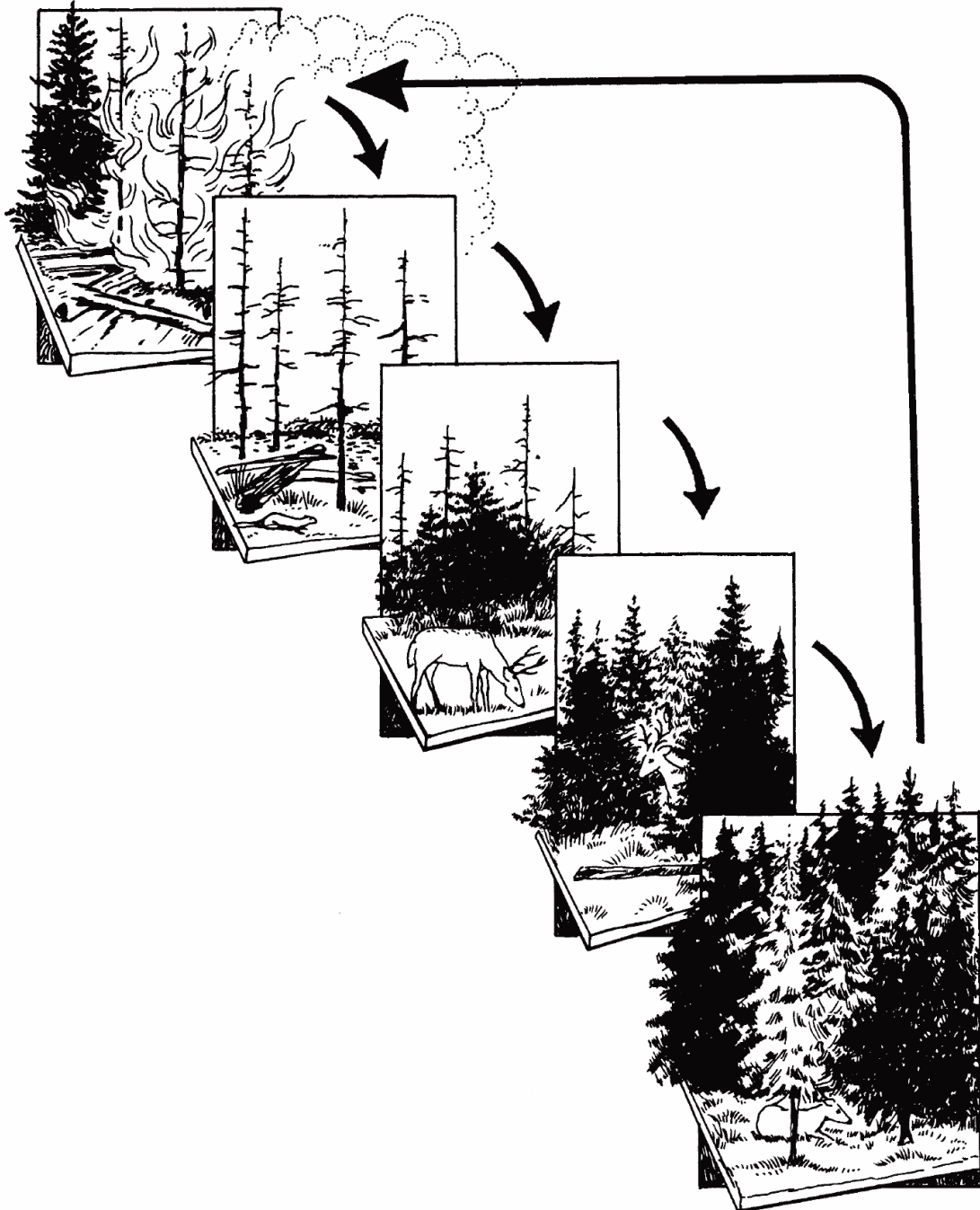
Homework:

Master
4

Secondary Succession

Reteaching Skills

Use with Chapter 3, Section 3.1



Secondary Succession

As you work on this exercise, remember that plants compete for sunlight, nutrients, and water.

The transparency shows what biologists predict will happen at Yellowstone Park in the years following the most extensive forest fire in its history. About 45 percent of the park burned.

1. a. After the fire, what resources remained in Yellowstone?

b. How are these resources different from those found in an area such as a lava flow, where no life existed before?

2. In the first stage of secondary succession, grasses and wildflowers abound. Why do these plants flourish where there used to be forest?

3. Why will shrubs grow before trees?

4. For a time, the major plants in Yellowstone will be yellow pines, which will ultimately be replaced by lodgepole pines. What does this tell you about yellow pines and lodgepole pines? Explain your hypothesis.

5. Once lodgepole pines are established, the forests of Yellowstone Park will not change radically again. What is the term for the lodgepole pine community?

6. a. Elk, large herbivores that live in the Yellowstone area, eat mainly grasses. In winter, they eat twigs and needles from small trees and shrubs. Explain what may happen to the elk population during the first 10 years after the fire.

b. What may happen to the elk population during the following 15 years?
