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| **R-SELECTED SPECIES**  ***The Opportunists***  Generally Speaking:  + Have adaptations that permit them to **rapidly increase their numbers.**  + **Below their carrying capacities** for long periods.    Specifically, Based on Study:  + Live in **disturbed environments**.  + Ecological **generalists**.  + Have **populations that fluctuate** rapidly in size.  + **Do not compete** well against other species  + Are **widely distributed**.  + Are **slow to respond** to ecological opportunities but live in wide varieties of environments.  + Are **short-lived**.  + Have **many, relatively small young**.  + Have short periods of embryonic development.  + Reach adulthood rapidly  + Small sized adults.  + Invest **little or no parental care** in young.  + **Reproduce once** per lifetime.  + Early successional species. | **K-SELECTED SPECIES**  ***The Competitors***  Generally Speaking:  + Have adaptations that permit them to live in a **state of equilibrium**.  + **Close to carrying capacities** for long periods.    Specifically, Based on Study:  + Live in **stable environments**.  + Ecological **specialists**.  + Have **populations stable** in size.  + **Compete** well against other species.  + Are **restricted in distribution** and where they can live.  + **Take rapid advantage** of ecological opportunities but live in specific types of environments.  + Are **long-lived**.  + Have **few, relatively large young**.  + Have long periods of embryonic development.  + Reach adulthood slowly.  + Large sized adults.  + Invest **intensive parental care** in young.  + **Reproduce throughout** lifetime  + Late successional species. |