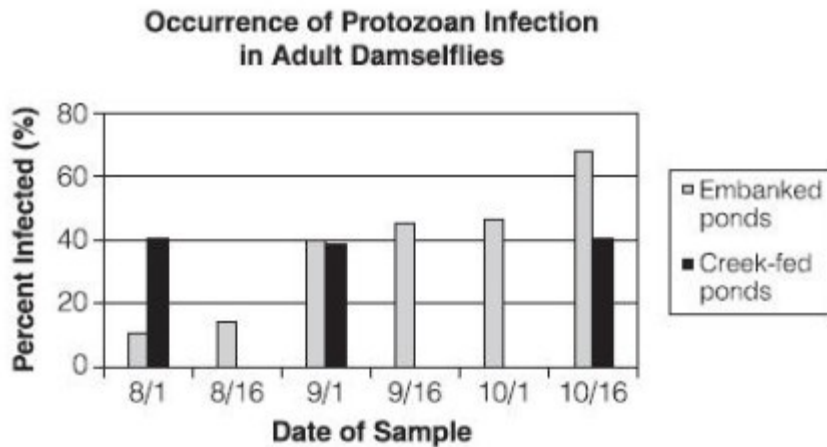


SC.912.N.1.1 – Nature of Science – Example 5 Answer

A research group has discovered that damselflies, a type of dragonfly, are being infected by a particular type of aquatic protozoan. Both young and adult damselflies are not directly infected by the protozoan but contract the infection from the prey they eat. The graph shows the percentage of adult damselflies infected by protozoans during the summer and early fall.



Which of the following conclusions is supported by the graph?

- A. Infection in embanked ponds increased during the sampling period.**
- B. Protozoans were more common in creek-fed ponds than embanked ponds.**
- C. Protozoans reproduce more quickly in embanked ponds than creek-fed ponds.**
- D. Infection in creek-fed ponds remained constant throughout the sampling period.**

Answer

A. Infection in embanked ponds increased during the sampling period.

The percent infected continually rose for these ponds as time progressed. D is incorrect because although the readings present on the graph are all relatively similar, there are no readings (or no infections) on some of the dates.