Twibbetts:

There are some little creatures that enjoy the natural habitat of your desk. I find them sometimes at the end of the day and when I come to school in the morning. For years I have been collecting these creatures. They are adapted to their environment because they look just like holes that you would get from the hole puncher. Normally these creatures do not have a predator, but today they will.

Procedure:

1. Take the twibbets to your table but do not take them out of the petri dish yet. Create a hypothesis of predator/prey relations to you and your twibbets for both habitat senarios.
2. Create a data table. Your data table needs to have two columns, one indicating the color of your table naturally, and one indicating the color of the table in a new habitat.
3. Decide who is going to be the predator(s) for the first column. These rolls will switch in the second round so everyone will be a predator.
4. Students that are not the predators will be spreading the twibbets around when the predator isn’t looking. Your job is to see if you can make it harder for the predator.
5. When time is called, you will have 10 seconds in each round to grab your “prey.” Make sure that you and your partner write down the numbers and colors of each prey “eaten.”
6. Continue until the first column in done.
7. Complete steps 4-6 for the second column.

Questions:

1. Were your hypothesis correct? Why or why not?
2. In the first column, where there more of one color(s) eaten than others? If so, why do you think they were eaten more?
3. What did you or your partner do to make it harder for the predator? Was it effective? Why or why not?
4. What would you expect to happen to your population of twibbets if we had continued for more rounds?
5. What % overall of each color twibbet was eaten? (if time allows)
6. How did your habitat change for the second round?
7. In your second column, where there more of one color(s) eaten than others? If so, why do you think they were eaten more?
8. What did your partner do to make it harder for the predator? Was it effective? Why or why not?
9. What would you expect to happen to your population of twibbets if we had continued for more rounds?
10. What % overall of each color twibbet was eaten? (if time allows)
11. Was there one color(s) that survived in larger numbers or percentages in both habitats?