Unit 1, Worksheet 1
Predicting Changes in Populations

In the 1788, the United Kingdom sent a ship to start a colony in Australia. On board the ship were European rabbits (Oryctolagus cuniculus). The rabbits were caged and bred for food for the colony. However, by the 1820’s some of the rabbits had escaped and were breeding in the wild. By the 1950’s there were over 600,000,000 rabbits across Australia.

1. If we assume 4 rabbits initially escaped, draw a storyboard showing what happened to the rabbit population.

2. Sketch out what the population graph would look like (based on your storyboard):

3. Explain your predictions: why do you think the rabbit population will change this way? What assumptions are you making?