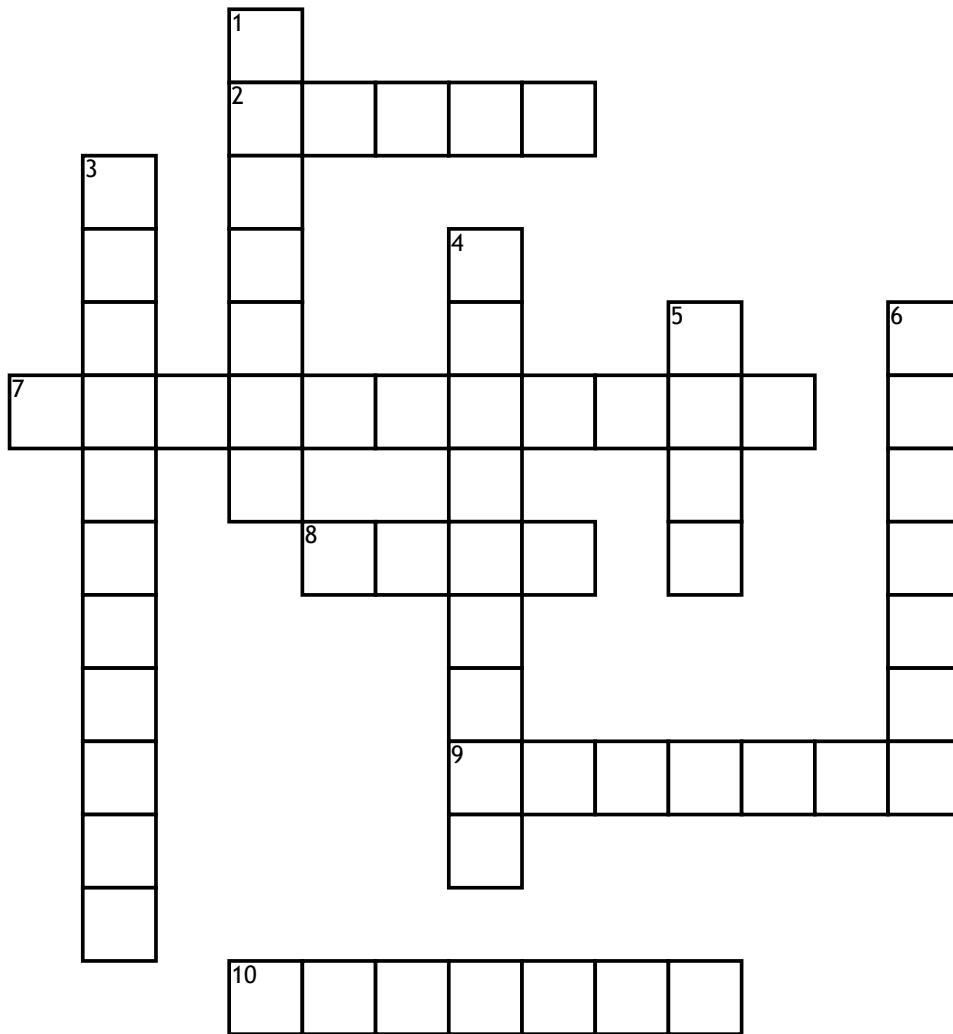


Name: _____

Date: _____

soil formation



Across

2. dark-colored organic material in soil
 7. a layer of soil that differs in color and texture from the layers above or below it
 8. the loose weathered material on earth's surface in which plants can grow
 9. crumbly, topmost layer of soil made up clay and other minerals and humus
 10. the solid layer of rock beneath the soil

Down

1. a range of values used to indicate how acidic or basic a substance is

Word Bank

soil horizon
 subsoil
 fertility

topsoil
 pH scale
 bedrock

loam
 decomposers

humus
 soil

3. an organism that break the remains of dead organisms into smaller pieces and digest them with chemicals
 4. a measure of how well soil supports plant growth

5. rich, fertile soil that is made up about equal parts of clay, sand, and silt
 6. the layer of soil below topsoil that has less plant and animal matter than topsoil and contains mostly clay and other minerals