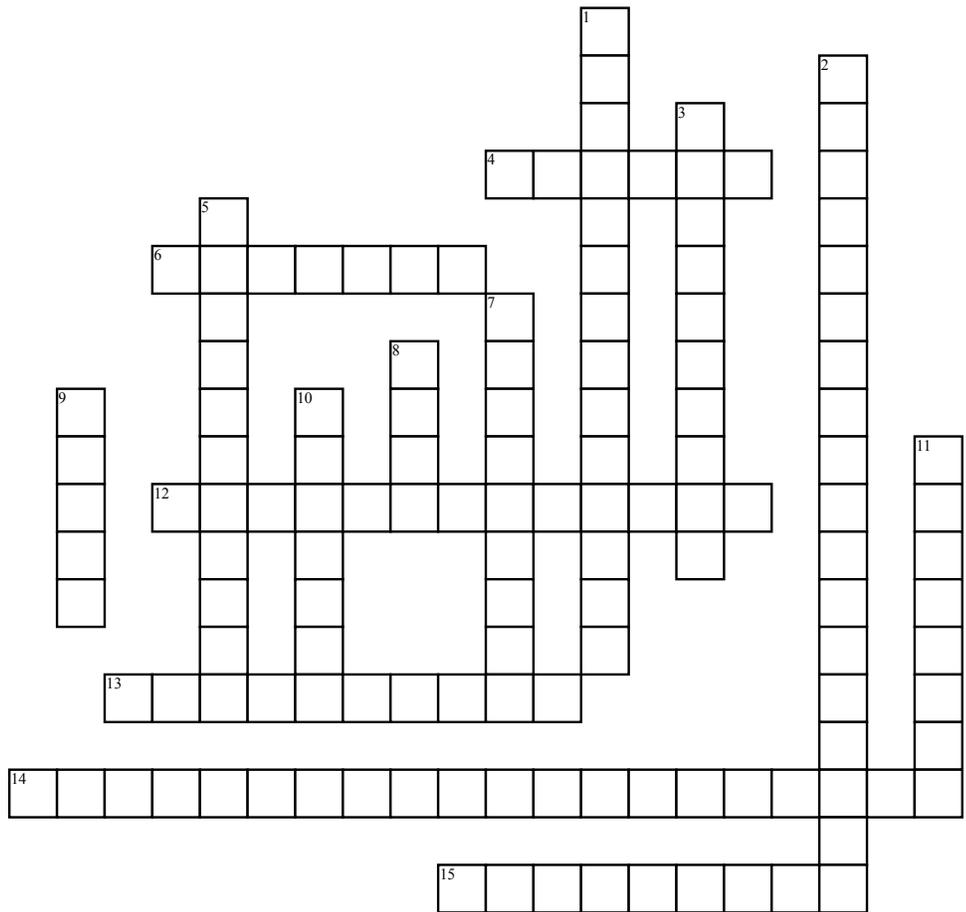


# Soil Crossword



**Across**

**4.** twigs, leaves, and other organic matter that helps prevent erosion and hold water and may eventually change into humus by decomposing organisms

**6.** each layer in a soil profile (O, A, B, C)

**12.** method for reducing soil erosion; plant stalks are left in the field after harvesting and the next year's crop is planted within the stalks without plowing

**13.** mechanical weathering process that occurs when water freezes in the cracks of rocks and expands, causing the rock to break apart

**14.** physical processes that break apart rock without changing its chemical makeup; can be caused by ice wedging, animals, or plant roots

**15.** farming method used to reduce erosion on steep slopes

**Down**

**1.** planting along the natural contours of the land to reduce soil erosion

**2.** Occurs when chemical reactions dissolve the minerals in rocks or change them into different minerals

**3.** mechanical or chemical surfaces processes that break into smaller and smaller pieces

**5.** vertical section of soil layers, each within is a horizon

**7.** chemical weathering process that occurs when some minerals are exposed to oxygen and water over time

**8.** mixture of weathered rock and mineral fragments, decayed organic matter, water, and air that can take thousands of years to develop

**9.** dark-colored, decayed organic matter that supplies nutrients to plants and is found mainly in topsoil

**10.** Average weather pattern in an area over a long period of time; can be classified by temperature, humidity, precipitation, and vegetation.

**11.** removal of minerals that have been dissolved in water