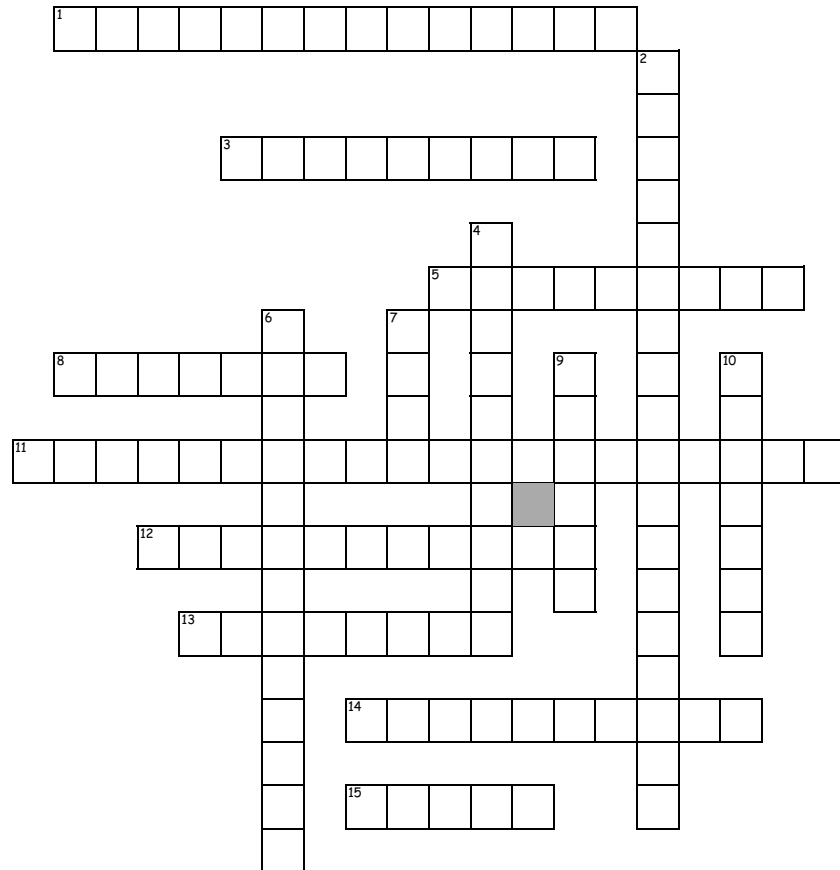


Name: _____

Soil Crossword Puzzle



- Across**
- 1. planting along the natural contours of the land to reduce soil erosion
 - 3. chemical weathering process that occurs when some minerals are exposed to oxygen and water over time
 - 5. farming method used to reduce erosion on steep slopes
 - 8. each layer in a soil profile horizon A (top layer of soil), horizon B (middle layer) and horizon C (bottom layer)
 - 11. physical processes that break rock apart without changing its chemical makeup; can be caused by ice wedging, animals, and plant roots
 - 12. vertical section of soil layers, each of which is a horizon
 - 13. removal of minerals that have been dissolved in water
 - 14. mechanical weathering process that occurs when water freezes in the cracks of rocks and expands, causing the rock to break apart.
 - 15. dark-colored, decayed organic matter that supplies nutrients to plants and is found mainly in topsoil.
- Down**
- 2. Occurs when chemical reactions dissolve the minerals in rocks or change them into different minerals
 - 4. mechanical or chemical surface processes that break rock into smaller and smaller pieces
 - 6. 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
 - 7. mixture of weathered rock and mineral fragments, decayed organic matter, mineral fragments, water, and air that can take thousands of years to develop.
 - 9. twigs, leaves, and other organic matter that help prevent erosion and hold water and may eventually be changed into humus by decomposing organisms
 - 10. average weather pattern in an area over a long period of time; can be classified by temperature, humidity, precipitation, and vegetation