

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

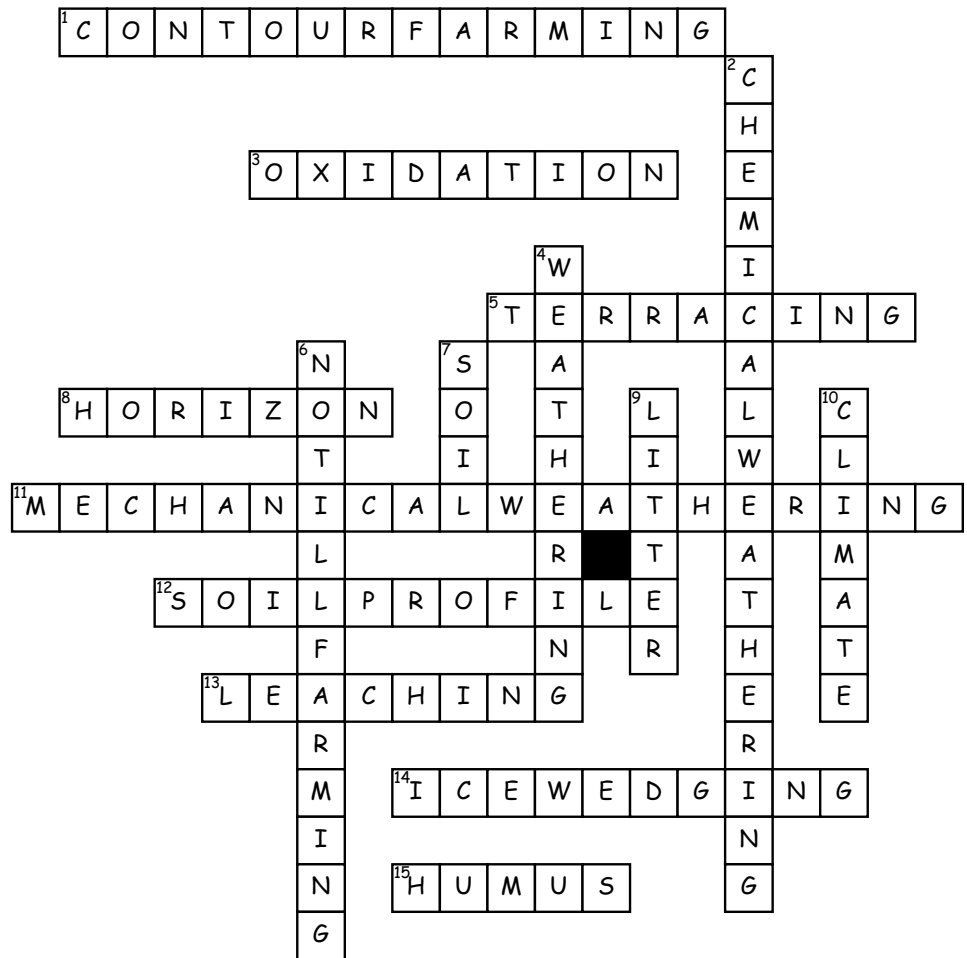
5. farming method used to reduce erosion on steep slopes

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

