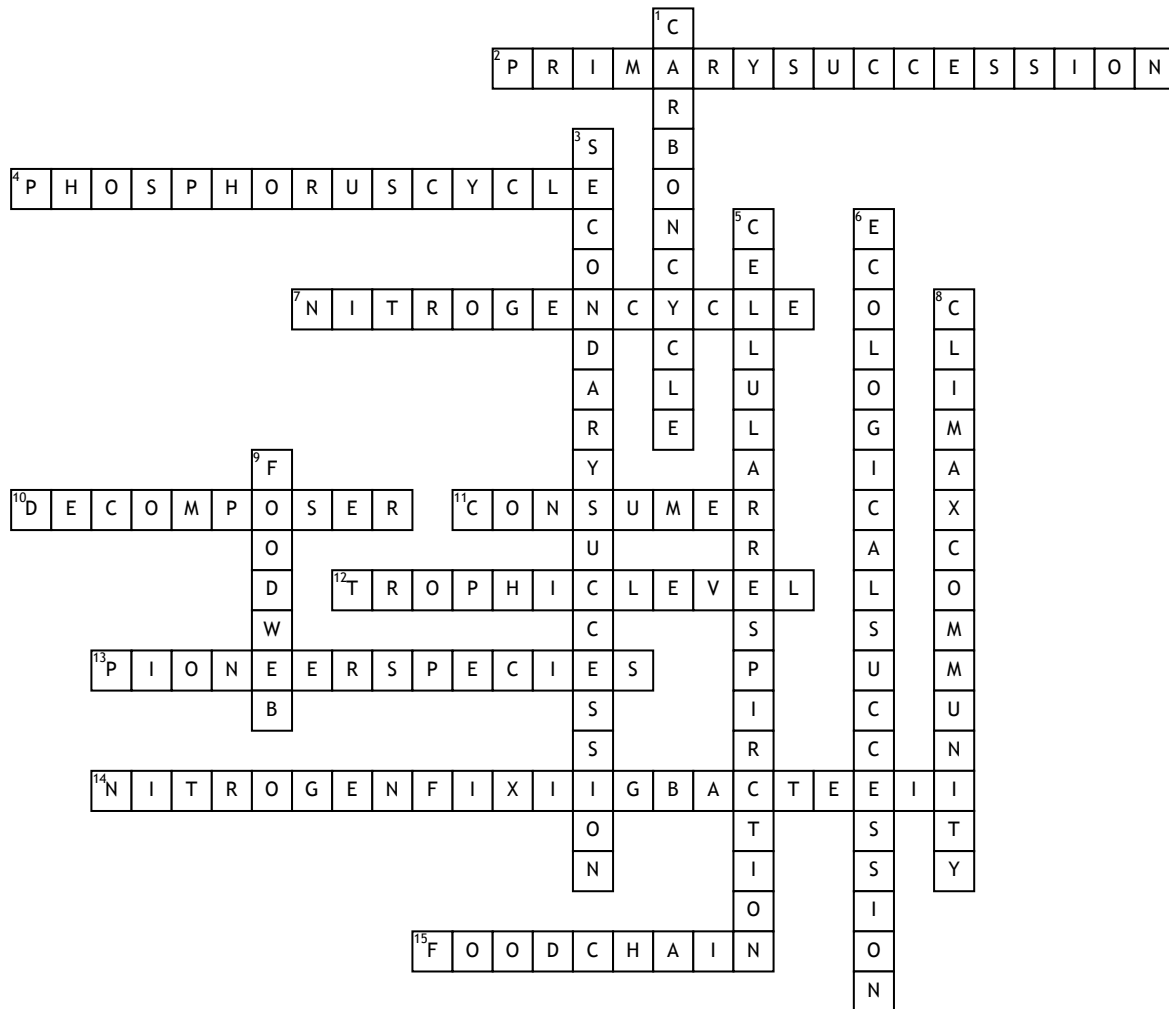


How Ecosystems Work



Across

2. the type of succession that occurs on a surface where no ecosystem existed before, such as on rocks or sand dunes
4. the movement of phosphorus from the environment to organisms and then back to the environment
7. a process in which nitrogen is cycled between the atmosphere, bacteria, and other organisms
10. consumers that get their food by breaking down dead organisms
11. organism that get their energy by eating other organisms
12. each step through which energy is transferred in a food chain

13. the first organism to colonize any newly available area and begin the process of ecological succession
14. bacteria that convert atmospheric nitrogen into ammonia
15. a sequence in which energy is transferred from one organism to the next as each organism eats another organism

Down

1. a process by which carbon is cycled between the atmosphere, land, water, and organisms
3. the more common type of succession; occurs on a surface where an ecosystem has previously existed

5. the process of breaking down food to yield energy
6. a gradual process of change and replacement of some or all of the species in a community
8. a final and stable community
9. shows many feeding relationships that are possible in an ecosystem