

Succession/Cycles/Ecosystems Review

1. What is succession? Describe in your own words.

The series of changes that occur in an ecosystem after a disturbance.

2. What are the four stages of succession?

pioneer → mossy → grassy/thicket → final stage (climax community)

3. What is the difference between primary and secondary succession?

Primary: lifeless with no soil present, takes time for soil to develop.
Secondary: soil present, community may regrow more quickly.

4. Describe the pioneer stage of succession?

The stage of primary succession with a distinct lack of soil.

5. How do plants obtain the carbon they need?

By performing photosynthesis:

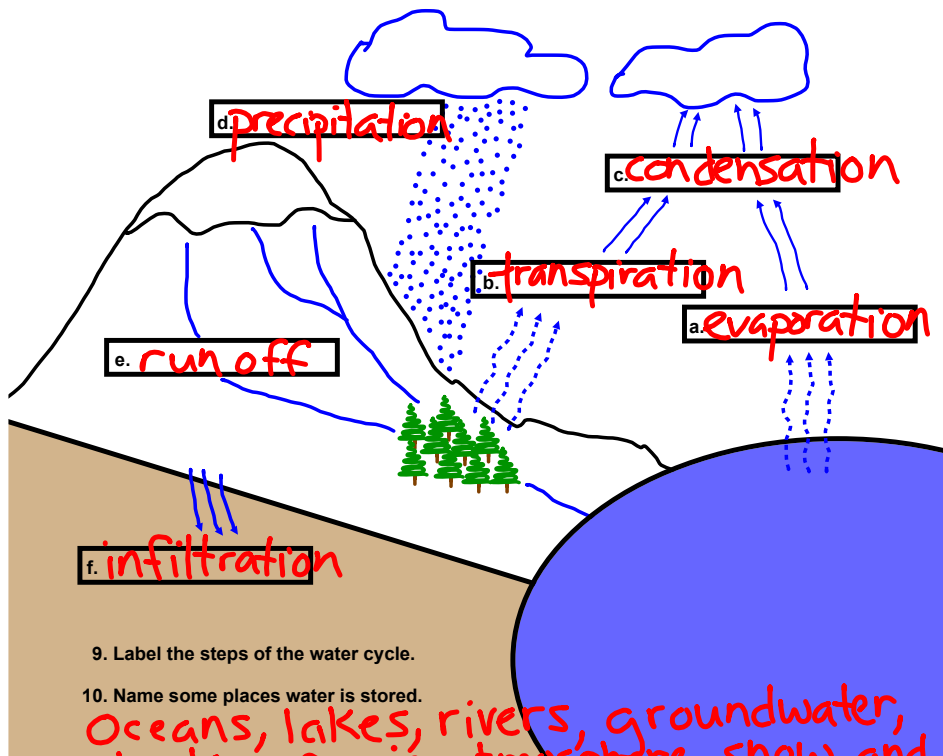


6. How do animals obtain the carbon they need?

By eating food (producers or other consumers)

7. Give three ways carbon is released back into the atmosphere as CO₂.

Respiration, decomposition, and combustion



9. Label the steps of the water cycle.

10. Name some places water is stored.

Oceans, lakes, rivers, groundwater, clouds, vapor in atmosphere, snow and ice on mountains and poles

Write the name of each biome next to its description.

desert
grassland
coniferous forest or taiga

tropical rainforest
temperate deciduous forest
tundra

- grassland a. Height of grasses depends on the amount of rain. Also called prairies, steppes, and pampas.
- tundra b. Has winters that are long, dark, and cold. Plants include mosses, lichens, and grasses.
- temperate deciduous forest c. Broadleaf trees such as oaks and maples. Trees lose their leaves each fall.
- desert d. Typical plants are cacti, small bushes, and short grasses. Plants adapted to lack of water.
- coniferous forest e. Evergreen trees with needles and cones such as spruces, pines, and firs. Needles remain on the trees all year.
- tropical rainforest f. Has three layers: canopy, understory, and floor. Dense canopy contains giant trees.