Answer Key

Directed Reading A

SECTION: THE CYCLES OF MATTER

1. water cycle
2. evaporation
3. condensation
4. precipitation
5. runoff
6. groundwater
7. transpiration
8. It helps transport nutrients, transport wastes, and regulate temperature.
9. C
10. D
11. C
12. Plants use it to make sugars.
13. Answers may vary. Sample answer: During decomposition, substances break down into simpler molecular substances. Combustion: A substance burns.
14. Answers may vary. Sample answer: During combustion, a substance burns.
15. nitrogen cycle
16. nitrogen fixation
17. to build proteins and DNA for new cells
18. Bacteria in soil and plant roots perform most nitrogen fixation.
19. Plant roots take up nitrogen from the soil.
20. by eating plants or organisms that eat plants
21. Nitrogen is released into the soil.
22. D
23. by water

SECTION: ECOLOGICAL SUCCESSION

1. Most were dead but still standing.
2. B
3. D
4. pioneer species
5. lichens
6. insects
7. primary succession
8. hundreds or thousands of years
9. B
10. C
11. B
12. a slow-growing species that is well-adapted to an area over time
13. Answers may vary. Sample answer: Biodiversity makes a community better able to survive disturbances such as insect invasion or disease.
14. They can live together in the same area over time.

Directed Reading B

SECTION: THE CYCLES OF MATTER

1. C
2. C
3. D
4. A
5. B
6. runoff
7. groundwater
8. B
9. C
10. C
11. A
12. decomposition
13. combustion
14. C
15. C
16. B
17. B

SECTION: ECOLOGICAL SUCCESSION

1. D
2. B
3. B
4. D
5. D
6. A
7. D
8. B
9. D
10. D
11. C

Vocabulary and Section Summary

SECTION: THE CYCLES OF MATTER

1. evaporation: the change of a substance from a liquid to a gas
2. condensation: the change of state from a gas to a liquid
3. precipitation: any form of water that falls to the Earth's surface from the clouds
4. decomposition: the breakdown of substances into simpler molecular substances
5. combustion: the burning of a substance

SECTION: ECOLOGICAL SUCCESSION

1. succession: the replacement of one type of community by another at a single place over a period of time

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