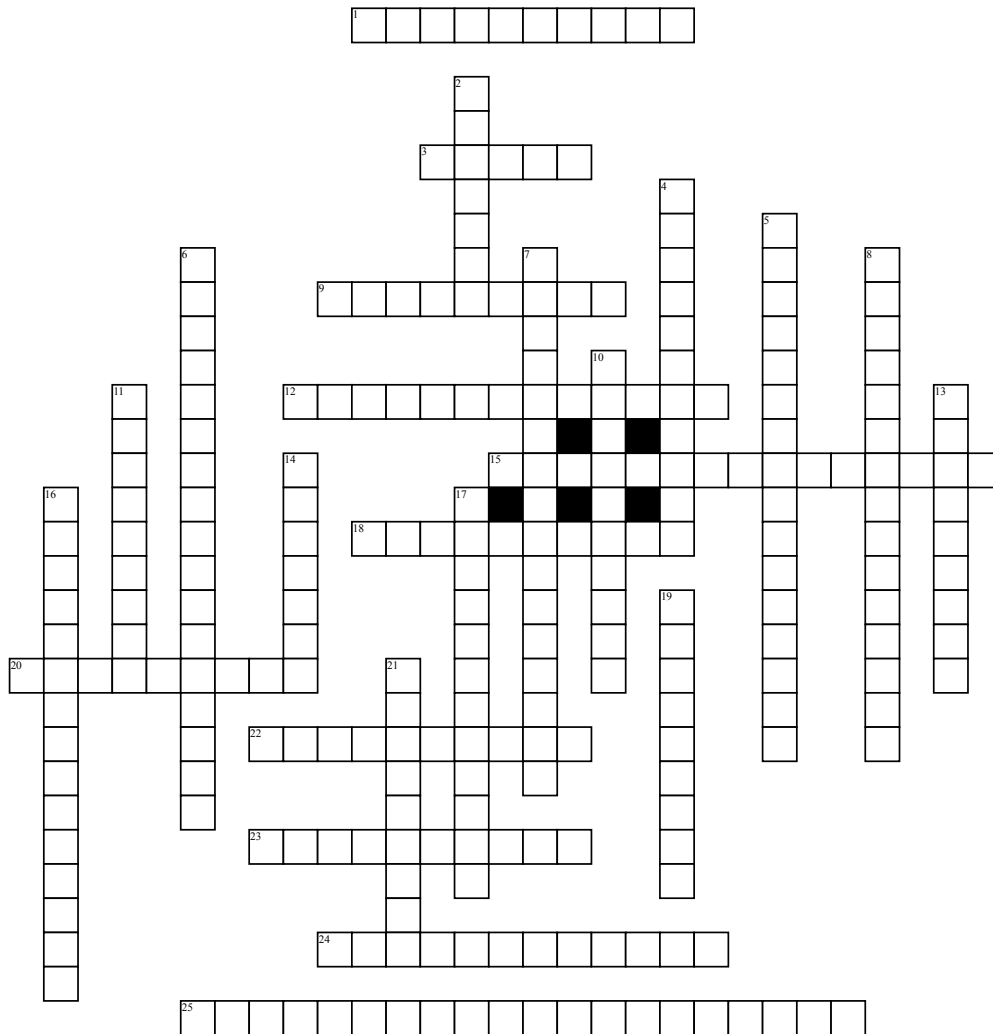


ECOLOGY



Across

- 1. An organism that feeds on and breaks down dead or decaying matter
- 3. An organism's role in an environment (example: how it uses its resources and relationships between other organisms)
- 9. An interconnected chain of organisms related to energy transfer that indicates which are predators and which are prey in relation to another
- 12. A drawing that shows how energy from the sun moves through the biotic factors in an ecosystem
- 15. Species that are non-native to an ecosystem and whose presence causes harm
- 18. The dying out of a species
- 20. A group of two or more populations of different species inhabiting the same location at the same time
- 22. Describes the change in the size of the population over time
- 23. A group of organisms of the same species living in the same geographic area

- 24. A symbiotic relationship between organisms, where one organism benefits from the relationship and the other is not benefited or harmed

- 25. The gradual process by which ecosystems change and develop over time

Down

- 2. Non-living physical and chemical elements in an ecosystem (examples: air, water, sunlight, soil)
- 4. The interaction where individuals of the same or different species fight for limited resources
- 5. The process where organisms that are better adapted to their environment tend to survive and pass their genes/traits to their offspring
- 6. The number of individuals of a species in an environment divided by the total land area, or water volume, of that environment
- 7. The maximum number of individuals in a single population that an ecosystem can sustain at a given time
- 8. A community of plants and animals that is considered stable, because the members of that community are the best adapted to their environment

- 10. A type of symbiotic relationship where one organism, the parasite, benefits, and the other organism, the host, is harmed
- 11. A term that describes all the living and nonliving things in a certain location
- 13. A type of species interaction where one organism, the predator, consumes another organism, the prey
- 14. The study of the relationships/interactions between organisms and to their physical surroundings
- 16. A species that other species in an ecosystem largely depend on. If they were removed, the ecosystem would drastically change
- 17. The variety and variability of life in an ecosystem
- 19. An organism that consumes other animals for food
- 21. A symbiotic relationship where both organisms benefit

Word Bank

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|----------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Food Chain | Community | Mutualism | Ecological Succession | Keystone Species |
| Ecology | Invasive Species | Niche | Extinction | Biodiversity |
| Growth Rate | Decomposer | Population | Natural Selection | Abiotic |
| Parasitism | Commensalism | Climax Community | Ecosystem | Carrying Capacity |
| Energy Pyramid | Population Density | Competition | Carnivore | Predation |