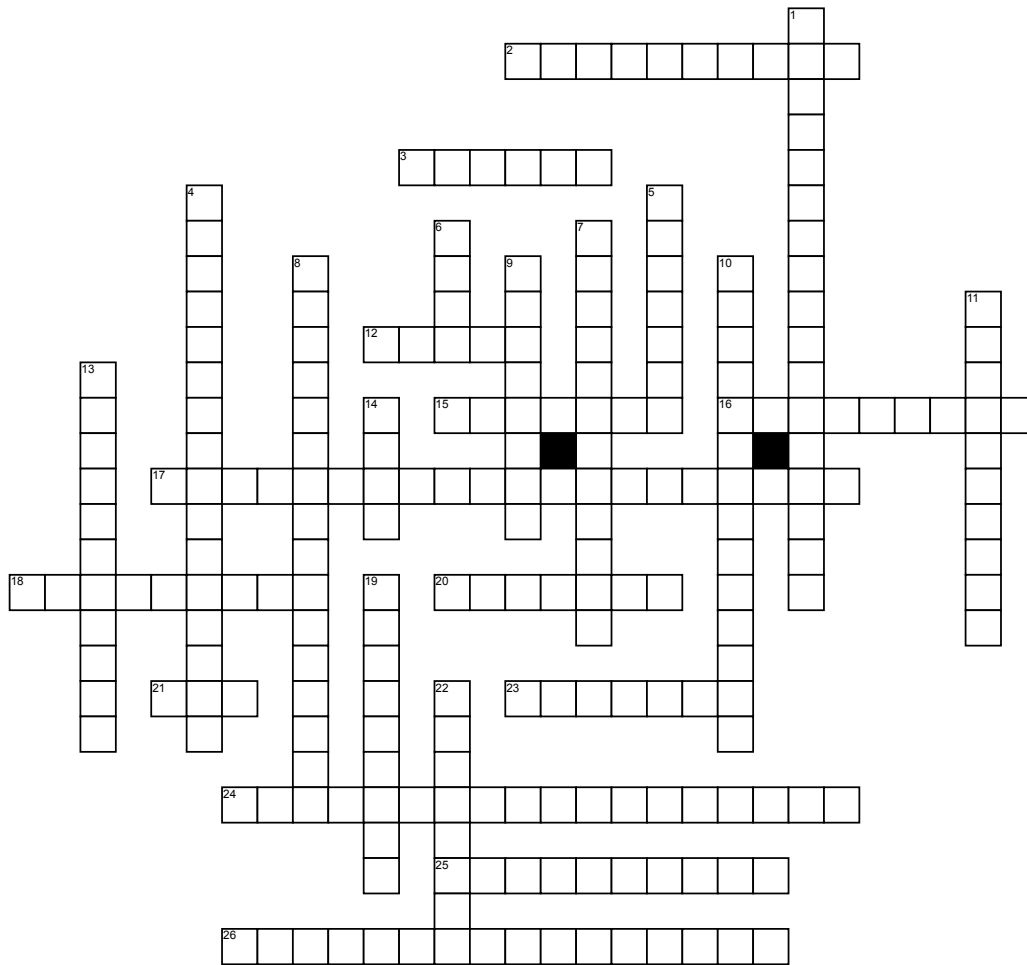


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Science Key Terms



## Across

2. The chemical and physical processes that break down rock at Earth's surface  
 3. The loose layer of dead plant leaves and stems on the surface of the soil  
 12. dark-colored organic material in soil  
 15. The layer of soil beneath the topsoil that contains mostly clay and other minerals  
 16. A chemical change in which a substance combines with oxygen, as when iron oxidizes forming rust  
 17. The type of weathering in which rock is physically broken into smaller pieces  
 18. Characteristics of a material that is full of tiny, connected air spaces that water can seep through  
 20. The solid layer of rock beneath the soil  
 21. A thick mass of grass roots and soil

23. The process by which water, ice, wind, or gravity moves weathered rock or soil  
 24. The process that breaks down rock through chemical changes  
 25. Process that splits rock when water seeps into cracks, then freezes then expands  
 26. The management of soil to prevent its destruction

## Down

1. The geologic principle that the same geologic processes that operate today operated in the past to change Earth's surface  
 4. The management of soil to prevent its destruction  
 5. Mixture of Humus, clay, and other minerals that forms the crumbly topmost layer of soil  
 6. Rich fertile soil that is made up of about equal parts of clay, sand, and silt

7. The planting of different crops in a field each year to maintain the soils fertility  
 8. Anything in the environment that humans use  
 9. The area of the Great Plains where wind erosion caused soil loss during the 1930's  
 10. Plowing fields along the curves of a slope to prevent soil loss  
 11. Soil organism that breaks down the remains of organisms and digests them  
 13. The layer of soil that differs in color and texture from the layers above or below it  
 14. The loose weathered material on Earth's surface in which plants grow  
 19. A measure of how well soil supports plant growth  
 22. The grinding away of a rock by other rock particles carried in water, ice, or wind

## Word Bank

Loam	Decomposer	Humus	Uniformitarianism	Soil Conservation
Erosion	Oxidation	natural resource	Ice wedging	Sod
Dust Bowl	Fertility	Soil Conservation	Weathering	Litter
Crop Rotation	Topsoil	Contour Plowing	Soil	Abrasion
Soil Horizon	Mechanical Weathering	Subsoil	Permeable	Bedrock
Chemical Weathering				