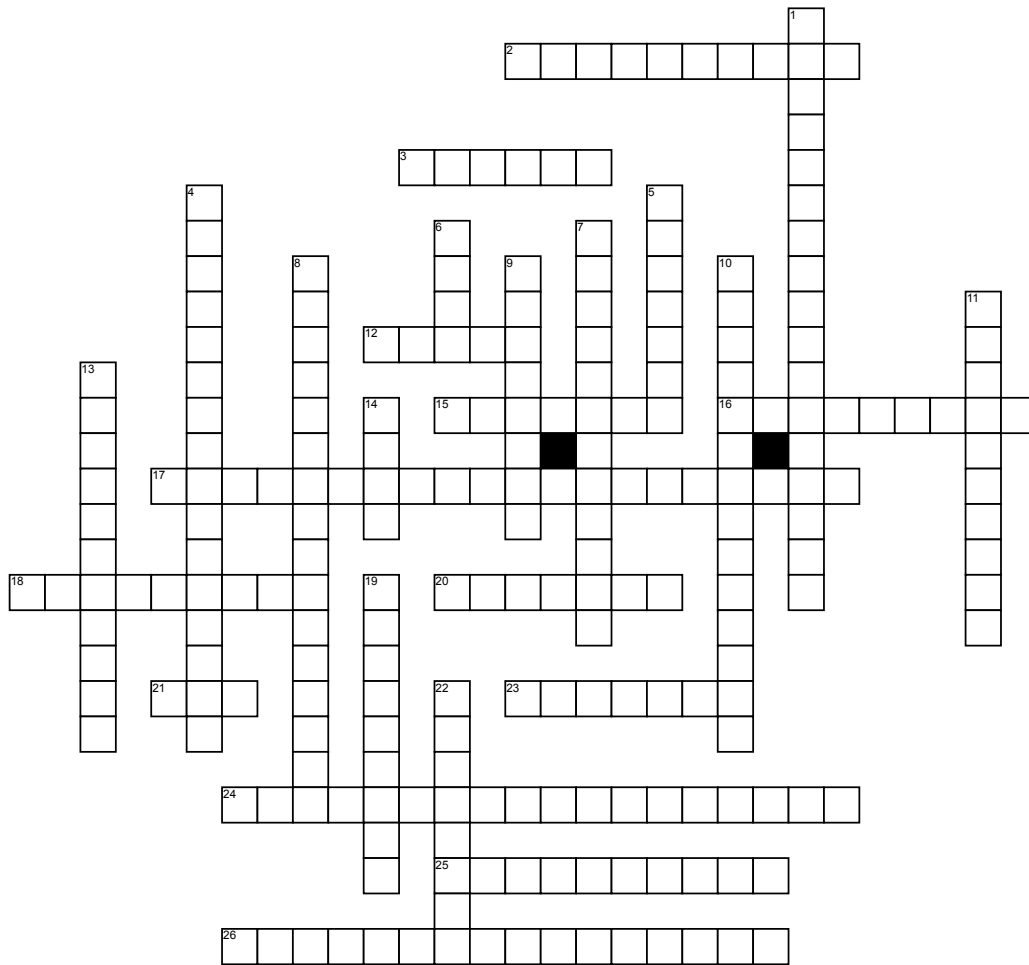


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

# Science Key Terms



**Across**

- 2. The chemical and physical processes that break down rock at Earth's surface
- 3. The loose layer or 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**

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