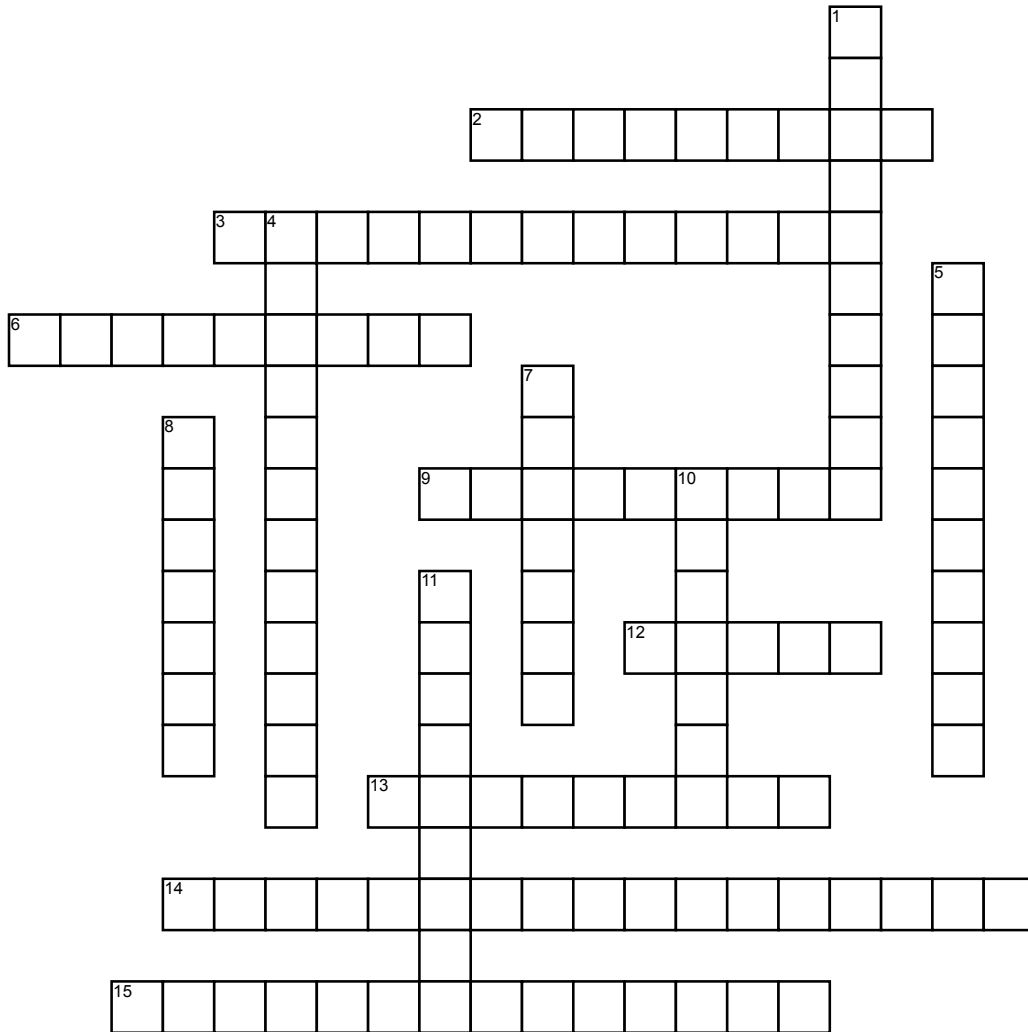


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Ecology Vocab



## Across

**2.** an interacting group of various species in a common location

**3.** non-living chemical and physical parts of the environment that affect living organisms and the functioning of ecosystems.

**6.** a close relationship between two different kinds of organisms, or living things. There are three basic types of symbiotic relationships: mutualism, commensalism, and parasitism.

**9.** the regions of the surface and atmosphere of the Earth

**12.** the part of the environment into which a species fits, and to which it is adapted.

**13.** A system that includes all living organisms (biotic factors) in an area as well as its physical environment (abiotic factors) functioning together as a unit.

**14.** a measure of the number of organisms that make up a population in a defined area.

**15.** environmental conditions that limit the growth of an organism or a population of organisms in an ecosystem

## Down

**1.** the sequence through which water evaporates into the atmosphere in the form of water vapor; it condenses forming liquid or solid precipitation that falls to the ground where it is collected in water bodies or underground aquifers to start the cycle over again.

**4.** the living components of an ecosystem. They are sorted into three groups: producers or autotrophs, consumers or heterotrophs, and decomposers

**5.** the number of organisms of the same species that live in a particular area

**7.** the branch of biology that deals with the relations of organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings.

**8.** chains linked together to show the feeding relationships of organisms in an ecosystem.

**10.** the home of an animal or a plant

**11.** shows how each living thing gets food, and how nutrients and energy are passed from creature to creature.

## Word Bank

niche

biotic factor

biosphere

water cycle

abiotic factor

ecosystem

symbiosis

food chain

community

population density

limiting factor

habitat

Ecology

food web

population