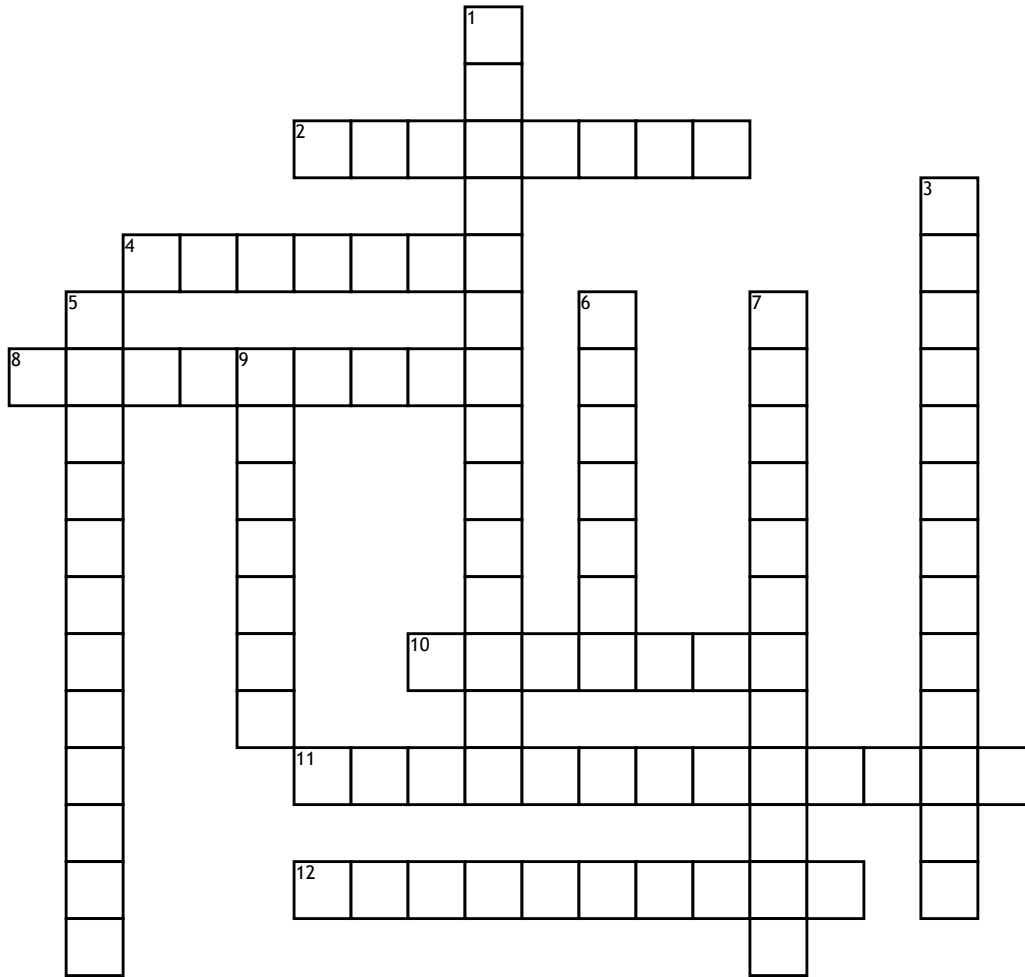


Name: _____

Date: _____

Soil Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 2. Growing corn takes _____ out of the soil, but growing soybeans puts _____ back into the soil.
- 4. The process by which the surface of the earth is worn away by the action of water, glaciers, winds, waves, etc.
- 8. Helps plants survive droughts, diseases, and very hot and cold temperatures. It is found in the soil but only a small amount is available to plants.
- 10. The preparation of land for growing crops.
- 11. The ability to sustain plant growth.

12. Helps plants store and use energy from the sun to make food for themselves.

Down

- 1. This is the bottom layer, about three feet below the surface in the Midwest. It is more compact and often has stones and rocks in it.
- 3. Matter composed of organic compounds that have come from the remains of organisms such as plants and animals and their waste products in the environment.
- 5. Protection of natural resources.

6. Here is where the plants grow. Wind or water erosion can wash away this valuable layer if farmers don't protect it.

7. Materials left in an agricultural field or orchard after the crop has been harvested.

9. This layer is about one foot below the surface. Deeper tree roots and earthworms live here.

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| OrganicMatter | ParentMaterial | Tillage | Topsoil |
| Erosion | Potassium | SoilFertility | Conservation |
| Subsoil | Phosphorus | Nitrogen | FieldResidue |