

Ecological Succession Worksheet

1. Describe the difference between primary and secondary succession.

A: Primary succession occurs in an environment in which new substrate devoid of vegetation and usually lacking soil, such as a lava flow or area left from retreated glacier. Secondary occurs on substrate that previously supported vegetation before an ecological disturbance.

2. What events/disturbances can lead to primary succession?

A: lava flow or area left from retreated glacier.

3. What events/disturbances can lead to secondary succession (10 minimum)?

A: floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, volcanic eruptions, forest fire, harvesting, typhoon, deforestation, pollution, acid rain.

4. Define pioneer species:

A: The species to first colonize previously disrupted or damaged ecosystems that begins a chain of ecological succession.

5. Define climax community:

A: A biological community of plants and animals which, through the process of ecological succession.

6. Describe the relationship between a soil manager and the stages of succession.

A: Soil is a critical resource for the growth of plants. Soil managers - biologists - work to maintain the biological succession. The soil is a critical resource.

7. What happens to species diversity during succession? Why?

A: Species diversity, which increases over time during succession, is a key factor in the success of the succession. It is a key factor in the success of the succession.

8. What happens to NPP and GPP during succession? Why?

A: During succession, GPP tends to increase over time as the community reaches maturity.

Succession of a Small Community

Use the internet to research the succession of one of the small communities. Include specific species and describe their adaptations to the environment. Describe all stages of succession. Include pioneer and climax species.

9. Ecological succession of a Small Community (Succession of a Small Community)

Answer: