

The Nitrogen Cycle

name _____

1. Of all the nutrients in your body, the 4 most abundant are: _____, _____, _____, _____.
2. Nitrogen is necessary to form all _____ in living organisms.
3. Most of the world's nitrogen exists in the form of _____, which is found _____.
4. Like all of our nutrients, nitrogen cycles from the _____ to the _____ of the environment.
5. For our study of the N-cycle we (only) need to know _____ different forms of nitrogen.
6. With the exception of _____ and factory-made fertilizers, all of the conversions between these forms of nitrogen are done by _____.
7. The process of "pulling" nitrogen from the air and making it useful to living organisms is called _____.
8. This process is done by _____ living in _____.
9. Some of these are just freely distributed through the soil, and others are living "symbiotically" on the _____.
10. The special name for that type of beneficial bacteria above, (great to know in Trivial Pursuit) is _____.
11. These bacteria fix nitrogen either in the form of _____ or _____.
12. Most plants can take up _____ and convert it to amino acids (which make up) _____.
13. Animals acquire all of their amino acids (i.e. nitrogen) by _____.
14. When plants or animals die (or release waste) their nitrogen goes _____.
15. When decomposers are finished their job the nitrogen is in the form of _____.
16. Ammonia is rather toxic to most organisms, but, fortunately there are _____ which _____.
17. To complete the cycle _____ return nitrogen to the air.