

Directed Reading A

Section: The Cycles of Matter

THE WATER CYCLE

1. The movement of water between the oceans, atmosphere, land, and living things is the _____.
2. The changing of water from liquid to vapor is called _____.
3. During _____, water vapor cools and returns to a liquid state.
4. Water that falls from the atmosphere to the land and oceans is called _____.
5. Precipitation that falls on land and then flows into streams, rivers, and lakes is called _____.
6. Precipitation that seeps into the ground and is stored among rocks is called _____.
7. Water vapor is released by plants and returned to the environment in a process called _____.
8. Name three reasons water is needed for life on Earth.

THE CARBON CYCLE

- _____ 9. What are organic molecules?
 - a. molecules that are alive
 - b. water molecules
 - c. molecules that contain carbon
 - d. molecules that break down
- _____ 10. How do animals get carbon?
 - a. through photosynthesis
 - b. by taking it from the air
 - c. through respiration
 - d. by eating plants
- _____ 11. In what process is carbon returned to the environment?
 - a. condensation
 - b. transpiration
 - c. respiration
 - d. evaporation

Directed Reading A *continued*

12. What happens to carbon dioxide during photosynthesis?

13. What happens during decomposition?

14. What happens during combustion?

THE NITROGEN CYCLE

15. The movement of nitrogen between the environment and living things is called the _____.

16. The process in which bacteria in the soil change nitrogen gas into forms that plants can use is called _____.

17. Why do organisms need nitrogen?

18. Name two things that perform most nitrogen fixation.

19. How do plants get the nitrogen they need?

20. How do animals get the nitrogen they need?

Directed Reading A *continued*

21. What happens to nitrogen during decomposition?

MANY CYCLES

_____ 22. Which of the following statements describes cycles in nature?

- a. They are all separate.
- b. Minerals do not cycle through Earth.
- c. Animals play no part in cycles.
- d. Each cycle is connected in many ways.

23. How are some forms of nitrogen and carbon carried through the environment?
