

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Succession Activity

Directions: Carefully cut out the cards for each example of succession. Only cut out the six to eight cards for each type at one time. Match the picture to the description and place them in the correct order from beginning to climax community. Glue them down here. Place the picture on the top row and the descriptions underneath.

### POND SUCCESSION

1	2	3	4

### GRASSLAND SUCCESSION

1	2	3	4

## FOREST SUCCESSION

1	2	3	4

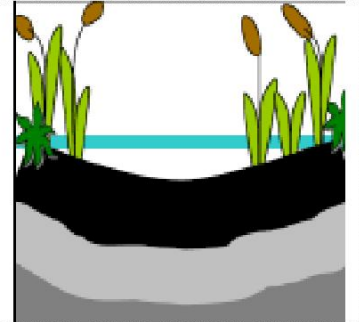
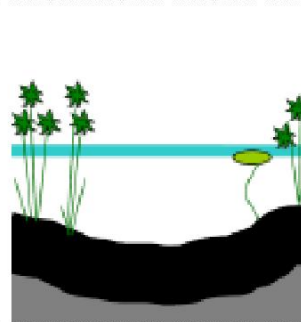
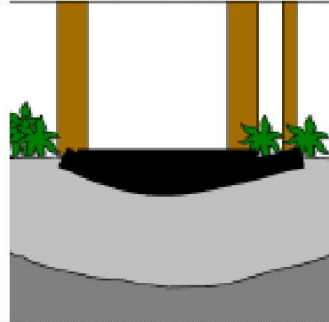
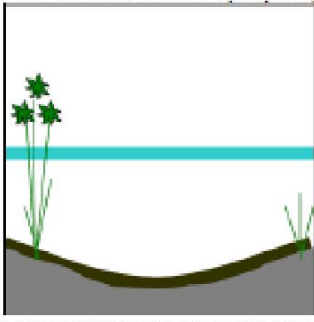
## DESERT SUCCESSION

1	2	3	4

Label each type of succession as primary or secondary

pond \_\_\_\_\_ forest \_\_\_\_\_

desert \_\_\_\_\_ grassland \_\_\_\_\_



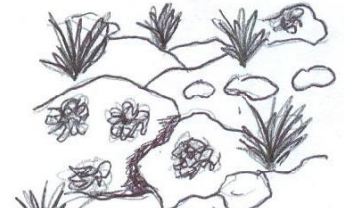
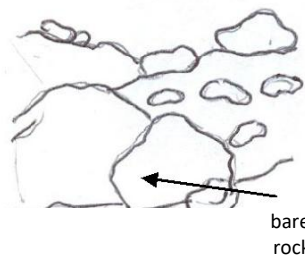
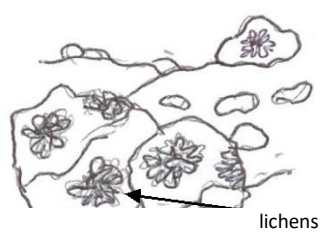
cut all dotted lines, you will have 8 separate "cards". Put them in order before you cut out the next set.

Grasses and other small land plants begin to grow on dry edges; more soil; small land animals, such as mice, rabbits, etc... move into the area.

Greater variety of plants; larger sized plants growing; layer of sediments thicker due to build up of dead organisms and soil washed into the pond.

Young pond; few plants; small size; a variety of small organisms present; bottom of pond has little sediment (soil is the black layer).

Pond completely filled in; bushes shade out the grass; trees overgrow the bushes; larger land animals present such as deer, squirrels, etc...



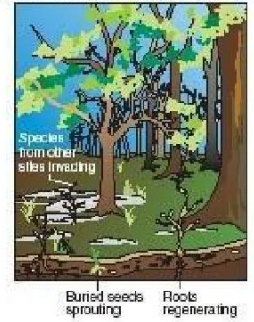
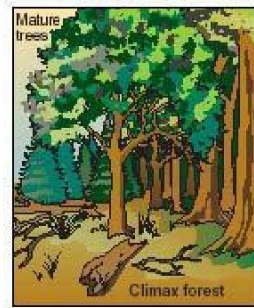
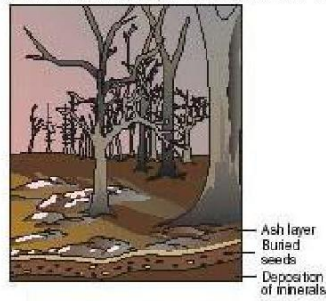
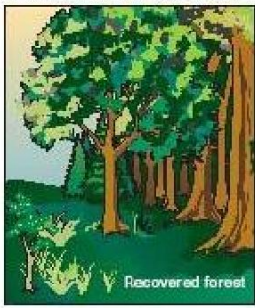
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As lichens create cracks in the rock, mosses and weeds begin to grow helping to create more soil.

Once soil is formed, weeds, grasses and small shrubs can take root. Small animals will begin to come into the area as well.

The glacier scrapes the earth as it moves by. After it melts, it leaves bare rock behind.

After about a year, lichens begin to grow on the rocks. The lichens begin to chemically break the rock down into soil.



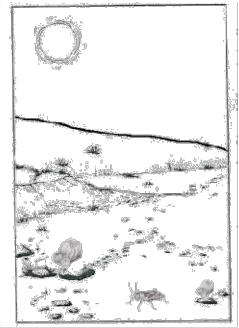
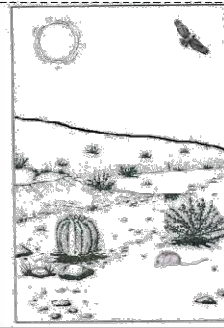
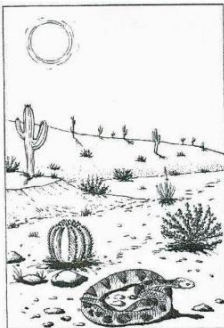
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Weeds begin to grow in the richly fertilized soil. Insects and other small organisms make their way back to the areas.

A fire comes through a forested area and burns up all of the plant life. What remains is soil and ash. The ash fertilizes the soil.

Trees grow in and the forest can now support more organisms and larger animals.

Grasses and small shrubs start to grow in. Small mammals and ground birds come back.



cut all dotted lines, you will have 8 separate "cards". Put them in order before you cut out the next set.

The shrubs become mature and certain cacti become very tall. Medium size mammals move in and birds begin creating holes in the cacti to nest in.

very small weeds and cacti begin to grow. insects may begin to move in

small shrubs move in and some of the cacti grow taller or larger. Small mammals and some birds move in.

A flash flood sweeps through a desert community leaving nothing but the bare sand.

# Ecological Succession

1. What is succession?
2. Give examples of abiotic factors that can cause change in a community.
3. Give examples of biotic factors that can cause change in a community.
4. The first organisms to arrive during primary succession are called \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Give examples:
5. What do you think happens to the biodiversity of a community as it ages?
6. A community that reaches a stable state of maturity is called a \_\_\_\_\_ .
7. Complete the concept map.

