

Vocabulary

- Carbon Cycle
- Nitrogen Cycle
- Nitrogen Fixation
- Ammonification
- Nitrification
- Assimilation
- Denitrification

5. How does the burning of fossil fuels upset the balance of the carbon cycle?

6. How is the carbon cycle related to global warming?

7. What are the processes involved in the nitrogen cycle?

8. What is nitrogen fixation? Describe how it happens.

9. How are nitrates in the soil converted back to nitrogen gas?
10. A farmer has depleted her fields of nitrogen by growing the same crop over and over again for many years. What should she apply to the fields to replenish the nitrogen? What form should the nitrogen be in?
11. A year later, the same farmer heavily fertilizes her fields, so much so that there is more nitrogen in the soil than the crops can use. How might excess nitrogen in the soil affect the local ecosystem over time?