

# Decomposition Investigation Review

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## Understanding the Role of Decomposers in Ecosystems

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

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

Answer the following questions based on the lesson about decomposition and its importance in ecosystems.

1. What are decomposers primarily responsible for in an ecosystem?

- A. Producing food
- B. Breaking down dead matter
- C. Providing shelter

2. How do decomposers contribute to nutrient cycling in an ecosystem?

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3. Bacteria and fungi are examples of decomposers.

- True       False

4. According to Genesis 3:19, humans return to the \_\_\_\_ after death.

5. Why might some materials decompose faster than others?

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6. Which statement is true about decomposition?

- A. It only happens in forests.
- B. It is a natural process in all ecosystems.
- C. Decomposers only break down animal matter.

7. Decomposers are not important for plant growth.

- True       False

8. Decomposers help recycle nutrients back into the \_\_\_\_ for plants.

9. What is one way to observe decomposition rates?

- A. By planting seeds
- B. By conducting an experiment with different materials
- C. By measuring sunlight

10. Discuss why understanding decomposition is important for studying ecosystems.

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Answer Key

1. Breaking down dead matter 2. Decomposers break down dead plants and animals, returning nutrients to the soil for new plants to use. 3. True 4. ground 5. Some materials, like fruit, are softer and have more moisture, making it easier for decomposers to break them down. 6. It is a natural process in all ecosystems. 7. False 8. soil 9. By conducting an experiment with different materials 10. Understanding decomposition helps us see how nutrients are recycled, which is essential for plant growth and maintaining healthy ecosystems.