

Cycles within ecosystems

Which process removes carbon dioxide from the air in the carbon cycle?

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Name three ways carbon dioxide is returned to the air.

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Why are decomposers important in the carbon cycle?

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What is combustion?

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What do nitrogen-fixing bacteria do?

Cycles within ecosystems **Biology only**

What do nitrifying bacteria do?

Cycles within ecosystems **Biology only**

What do denitrifying bacteria do?

Cycles within ecosystems **Biology only**

What is the role of decomposers in the nitrogen cycle?

Respiration, decomposition and combustion.

Photosynthesis, by plants and algae.

Burning of fuels such as wood, coal, oil and gas, which releases carbon dioxide.

They break down dead material and waste and release carbon dioxide by respiration.

Convert ammonium ions in the soil into nitrates.

Convert nitrogen gas from the air into nitrogen compounds, which become nitrates.

Break down proteins and urea in dead material and waste, releasing ammonia (ammonium ions).

Convert nitrates in the soil into nitrogen gas, reducing soil fertility.