Eastman Nature and Wildlife Habitat Center

Decomposers at Work

_____

Your Name

Site Survey Data Sheet

Date_____ Time_____

Location_____

Present Weather (Clear, Cloudy, Overcast or Raining)_____

Air Temperature_____ Celsius _____Fahrenheit

Wind_____ (Which direction is the wind coming from?)

Scavenger Hunt

Place a check by all you observe and total your points.

____Insect Home (5 points) ____Insect Larva (5) ____Insect Damage (3) ____ Erosion (5)

____Mammal (3) ____Spider Web (2) ____Cocoon (5) ____Invertebrate (2)

____Decomposing Log (2) ____Bird Nest (5) ____Squirrel (2) **Total Points**_____

My Tree's Life Cycle

Draw the life cycle of a tree.

Decomposer Inventory

Find a decomposing log and see how many of these decomposers you can find. Place a check by all that you observe.

____Earwig ____Beetles ____Earth Worms ____Pill Bugs ____Centipedes ____Termites

____Fungus ____Lichen ____Ants ____Crickets ____Insect larvae

____Spiders ____Millipedes ____Snails ____Sow Bugs ____Mushrooms

Energy Cycle

 The Sun

 Find a Producer_____

 Find a consumer_____

The Rotten Log

How many different decomposers are on the outside of your rotting log?_____

How many different decomposers are on the inside of your rotting log?_____

My Favorite Decomposer

Draw a picture of your favorite decomposer.

Tree Life Cycle

Walk into the forest and find a decaying tree on the ground. Answer the following questions.

1. Do you see any evidence of new trees beginning to grow close to your decaying log?

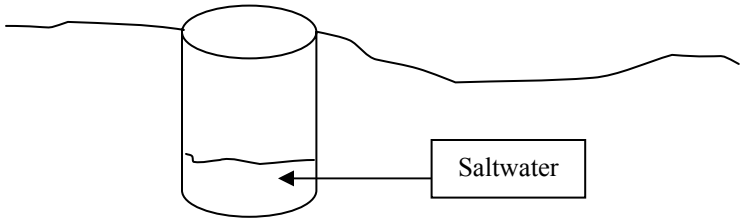
   _____

2. How many new trees do you see within 10 feet of your decaying tree?

   _____

Pitfall Traps

Dig a small hole (close to a decomposing log) and place a plastic cup or tin can in the hole. Add about an inch of salty water. Check your trap at the end of the day. How many decomposers did you find?



I found

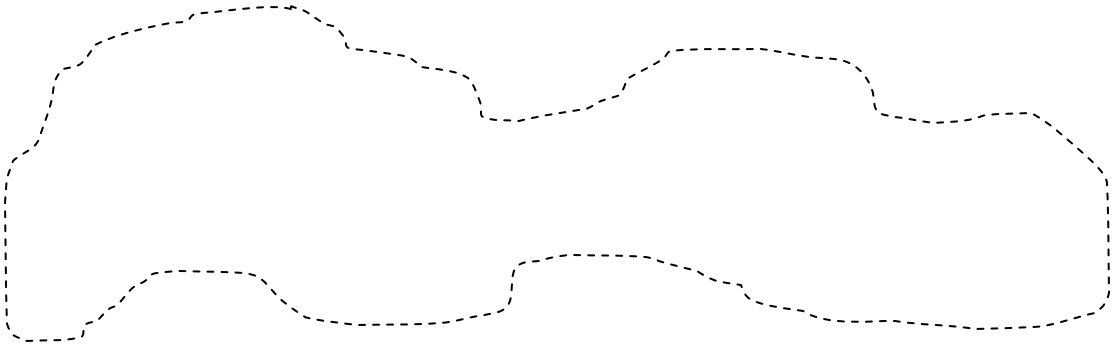
_____

(total number)

decomposers in my pitfall trap.

Termite Trails

Write over the dashed lines with a Papermate ink pen. Place one termite on the page and observe the termite's behavior. Record your observations on the following pages.



Termite Behavior

Describe your termite's behavior. What conclusions can you deduce from their behavior?

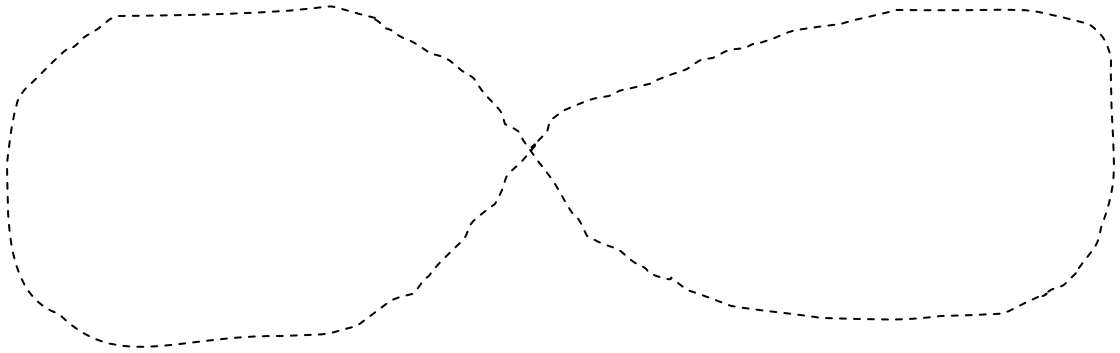
_____

_____

_____

Termite Behavior

Write over the dashed lines with a Papermate ink pen. Place 2 termites on the page and observe the termite's behavior. What happens at the intersection of the two lines?



Journal

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