

## Lesson Plan

### Corpse-Eating Crossword

**Book:** *Corpse-Eating Animals*

**Series:** Weird Animal Diets

**Level:** Beacon

#### Objective

To help students practice using context clues to match words to their meanings.

#### Supplies

- *Corpse-Eating Animals* book
- Corpse-Eating Crossword (attached)
- Whiteboard

#### Before the Activity

Print a copy of the Corpse-Eating Crossword for each student. Write the following terms on the whiteboard to create a word bank: carcass, carrion, decompose, diseases, food web, larvae, mammal, nutrients, scavengers, species

#### Activity

Read *Corpse-Eating Animals* out loud as a class. Then give each student a copy of the Corpse-Eating Crossword. Explain that each term in the word bank on the whiteboard matches one of the clues on this worksheet. Students should figure out which term matches each clue. Then, students should write the term in the numbered space in the crossword, putting one letter in each square. For terms that are two words long, students can skip the space between words when writing the letters in the squares. If students get stuck, they can look back through the book for hints.

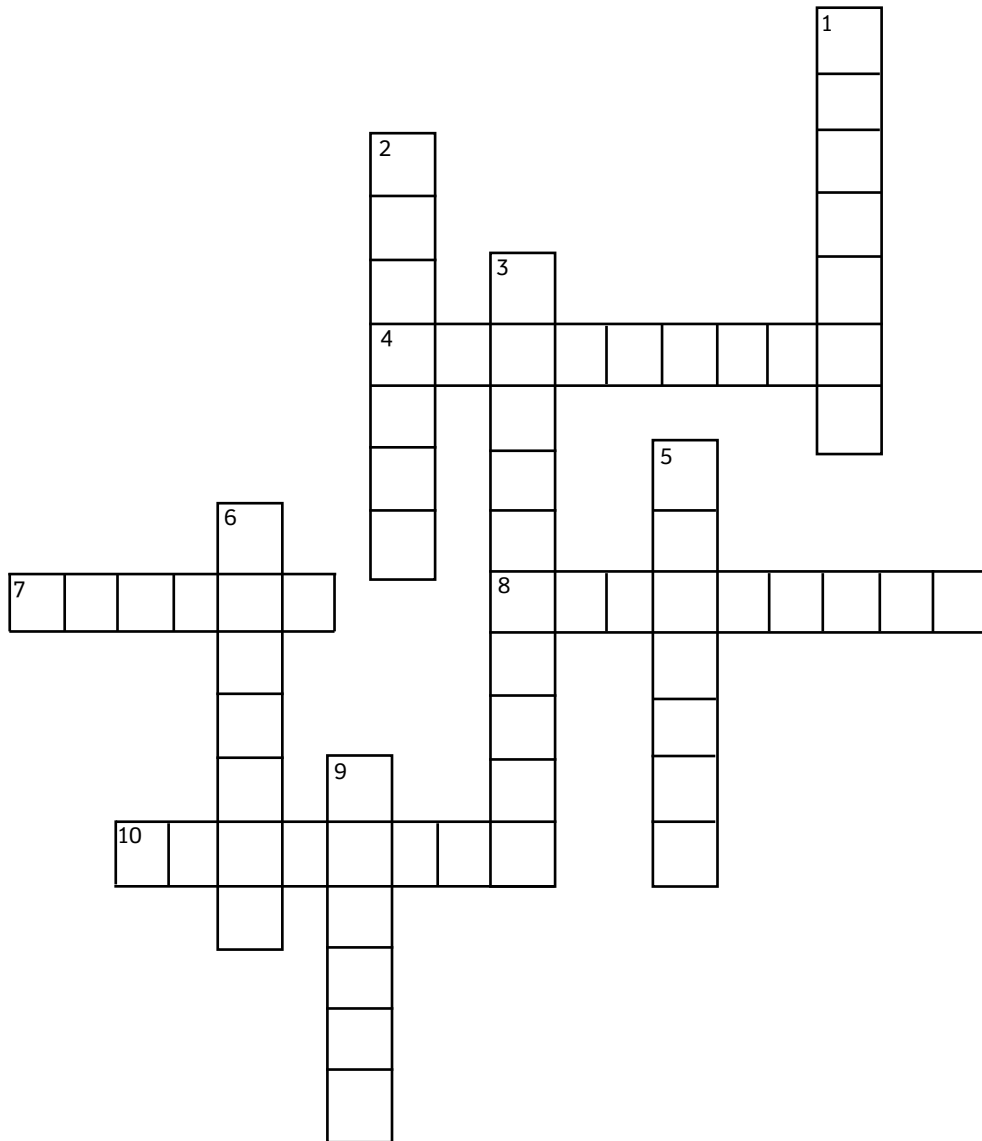
#### Evaluation

Use the attached answer key to give students 1 point for each term they write in the correct space, for a total of 10 points.

#### Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 3 (RI 3.4).

# Corpse-Eating Crossword



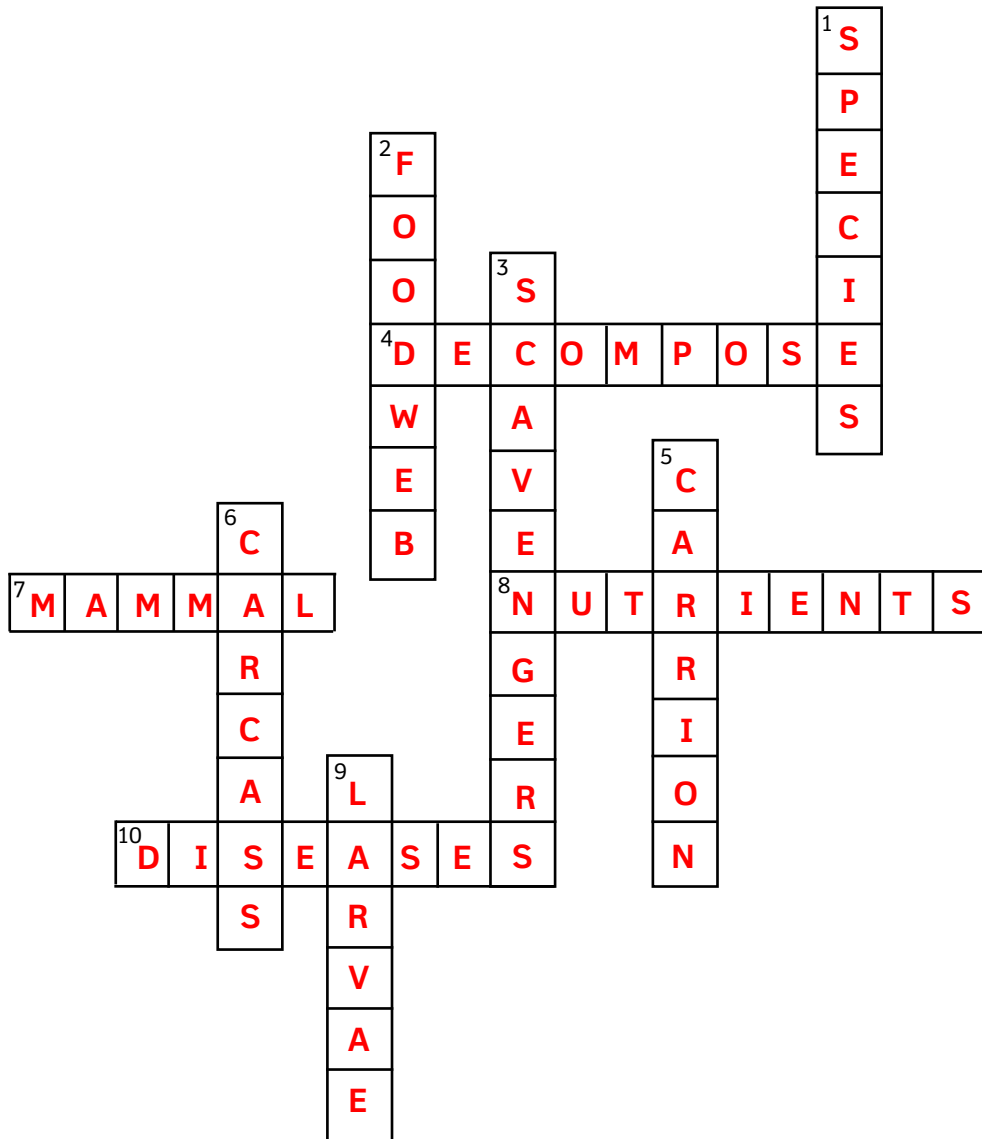
## Across:

4. To \_\_\_\_\_ means to break down, become rotten, or decay.
7. A \_\_\_\_\_ is an animal that has hair and produces milk for its young.
8. Scavengers recycle the \_\_\_\_\_ from the bodies of dead animals.
10. By eating the bodies of sick animals, vultures can prevent the spread of \_\_\_\_\_.

## Down:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ are groups of animals or plants of the same kind.
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ is the feeding relationships among living things.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ eat food that has been killed by another animal.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is the rotting flesh of dead animals.
6. Carrion beetles may cover a \_\_\_\_\_ in slime to hide its smell.
9. Fly \_\_\_\_\_ are called maggots.

# Corpse-Eating Crossword ANSWER KEY



**Across:**

- To \_\_\_\_\_ means to break down, become rotten, or decay.
- A \_\_\_\_\_ is an animal that has hair and produces milk for its young.
- Scavengers recycle the \_\_\_\_\_ from the bodies of dead animals.
- By eating the bodies of sick animals, vultures can prevent the spread of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Down:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ are groups of animals or plants of the same kind.
- A \_\_\_\_\_ is the feeding relationships among living things.
- \_\_\_\_\_ eat food that has been killed by another animal.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the rotting flesh of dead animals.
- Carrion beetles may cover a \_\_\_\_\_ in slime to hide its smell.
- Fly \_\_\_\_\_ are called maggots.