

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.

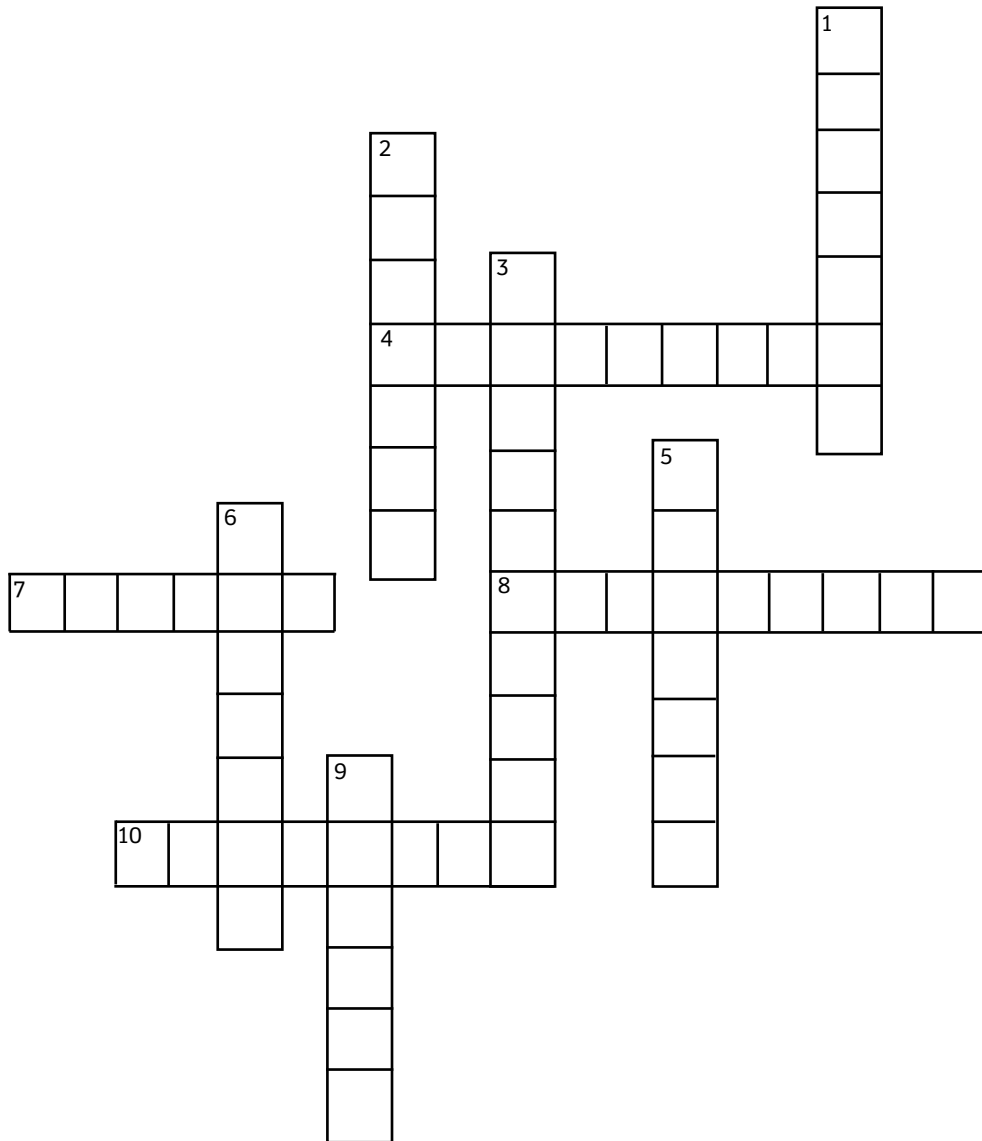
Evaluation

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



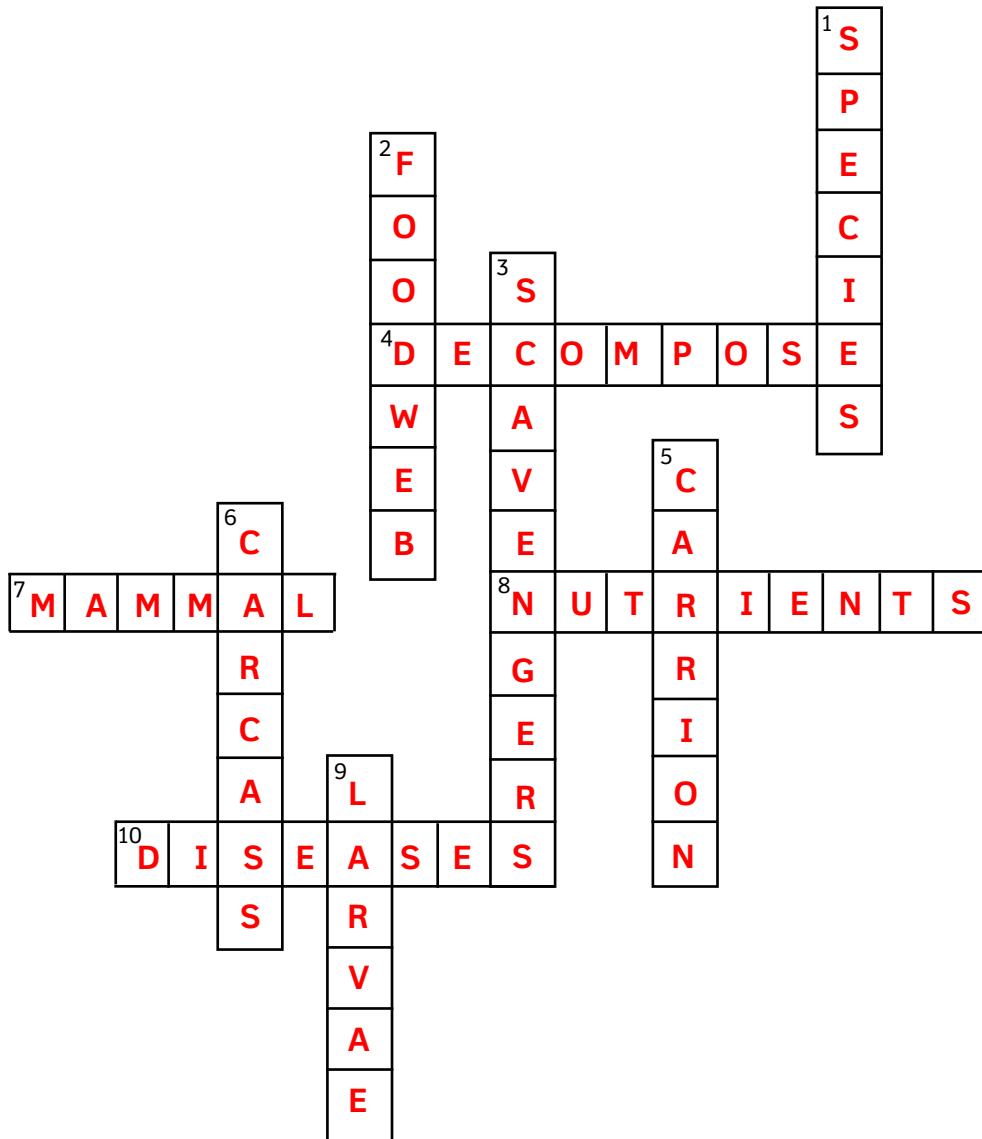
Across:

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.