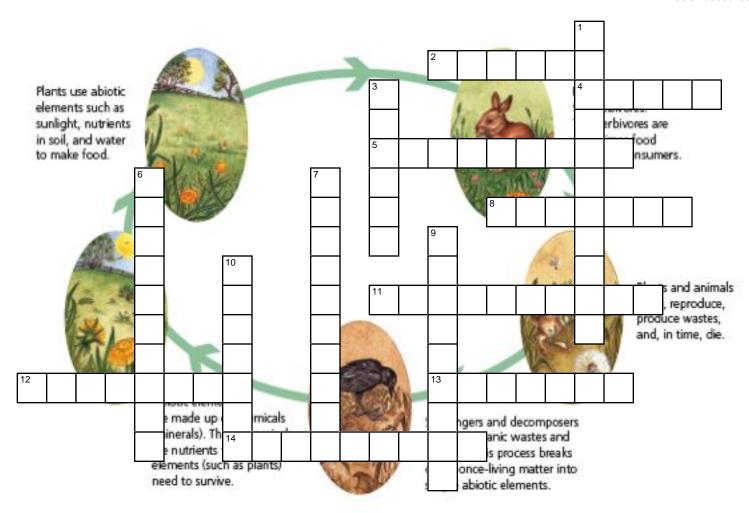
## 2.2 Cycling Matter

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## **Across**

- 2. Cycling interactions are part of the constant \_\_\_\_ in ecosystems.
- 4. The over-and-over-again movement of matter from abiotic elements into biotic elements and back to abiotic elements is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. Organic matter is made up of, or comes from,
- 8. The cycling of matter is a series of steps in a cycle that allows \_\_\_\_\_ elements to be used over and over again.
- 11. An abiotic element that flows in a cycle. This one is found in the soil.
- 12. This abiotic element flows in cycles. It is found in the air and in soil.
- 13. Communities have recently started programs to keep organic matter out of the landfills and create \_\_\_\_\_ that returns minerals and nutrients to the soil more quickly.
- 14. \_\_\_\_\_ absorb organic matter through feeding interactions and use it for growth.

## Down

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ are the engines of Earth's recycling program for nutrients.
- 3. "Organism" is another word for a \_\_\_\_\_ element.
- 6. The cycling of matter is \_\_\_\_\_ which means that change is constantly occuring.
- 7. Plants are food for \_\_\_\_. These creatures are also sometimes food for other consumers.
- 9. Abiotic elements are absorbed and used by \_\_\_\_\_ to form organic matter.
- If garbage is not made of \_\_\_\_\_ matter decomposers cannot break it down.