

Name _____

The Marvelous Carbon Cycle: How Earth Recycles Carbon

Short Answer Key

1. Carbon atoms are captured from the atmosphere and stored in plants as glucose and other organic compounds.
2. Decomposers break down dead matter, releasing carbon into the soil as organic matter.
3. Over millions of years, carbon-rich organic matter in the soil transforms into fossil fuels under heat and pressure.
4. Humans should reduce carbon emissions to mitigate the effects of global warming and climate change.
5. The ocean absorbs and stores carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, which helps regulate Earth's climate by reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the air.

