

Name: _____

Splash Knowledge Assessment

Fill in the blanks with words from the box below.

1. Vernal pools fill with water during the _____ season.
2. Flowers bloom and vernal pools dry up during the _____ season.
3. _____ is a layer of clay or minerals that water cannot pass through easily.
4. In the spring, the flowers bloom as the water _____ and slowly leaks through the bottom of the vernal pools.
5. When water first fills the vernal pools, _____ creatures called bacteria and protozoa spring to life.
6. Tiny bits of dead plants and animals are called _____.
7. All life is connected through a complex _____ in which every species is food for another species.
8. The first green plants to appear in the vernal pools are microscopic plants called _____.

microscopic	evaporates	detritus	winter
food web	hardpan	algae	spring

Circle the best answer:

9. In which watershed do we live?
 - a. the Kern River watershed
 - b. the Sacramento River watershed
 - c. the San Joaquin River watershed
 - d. the Feather River watershed
10. A species will survive, as long as some individuals of a species _____.
 - a. swim
 - b. eat
 - c. grow
 - d. reproduce
11. Water from our sinks, toilets and showers flows into pipes that carry it to be cleaned at a _____.
 - a. car wash
 - b. stream
 - c. wastewater treatment plant
 - d. wetland

12. Which of the following is not a source of water pollution?
- Oil dripping from cars
 - Plants
 - Pesticides from people's yards
 - Paint dumped in storm drains
13. What would happen to the plants and animals that live at the vernal pools if most of the vernal pools were destroyed?
- They would go live somewhere else.
 - They would quickly adapt to life in the city.
 - They would learn to live in a vineyard instead of a grassland.
 - They would become extinct.
14. Clean water supports abundant life.
- True False
15. Storm runoff that flows into storm drains carries pollutants directly into streams and rivers.
- True False
16. Storm drains are a great place to dump used motor oil.
- True False
17. The way we live in our watershed affects the quality of the water in our creeks and rivers.
- True False
18. Everyone lives in a watershed.
- True False

Solve:

19. If 90% of California's vernal pools have already been lost due to agriculture, development and roads, what percent of the vernal pools are left?

_____ percent

20. Write a paragraph describing the most important thing you learned from Splash. Explain why it was important to you.