

Name: _____

Vernal Pool Phases Worksheet

Conditions change quickly in a vernal pool. To show your understanding of the three phases, write W for wet phase, F for flower phase, and D for dry phase.

- _____ The soil is cracked and dry.
- _____ Algae (very small green plants) appear.
- _____ Vernal pools fill with water.
- _____ Animals visit the vernal pools looking for seeds.
- _____ Aquatic life hatches and begins to grow.
- _____ Flowers bloom and the vernal pools dry up.
- _____ Animals visit the vernal pools to dine on small aquatic animals.

Draw a line to connect the two matching items:

algae	bacteria & protozoa
animals without backbones	macroscopic animals
ecosystem	detritus
bits of dead plants and animals	invertebrates
Pacific Chorus Frog	tiny green plants
microscopic creatures	an environment and its community of plants and animals

Write T for True and F for False next to the following sentences:

- _____ Vernal pools are all the same.
- _____ Clean water supports abundant life.
- _____ The flowers found in vernal pools are found in many other places.
- _____ As long as some individuals of a species reproduce, the species will survive.
- _____ During the summer and fall, no animals are found at the dry vernal pools.
- _____ Scientists know everything there is to know about vernal pool plants and animals.