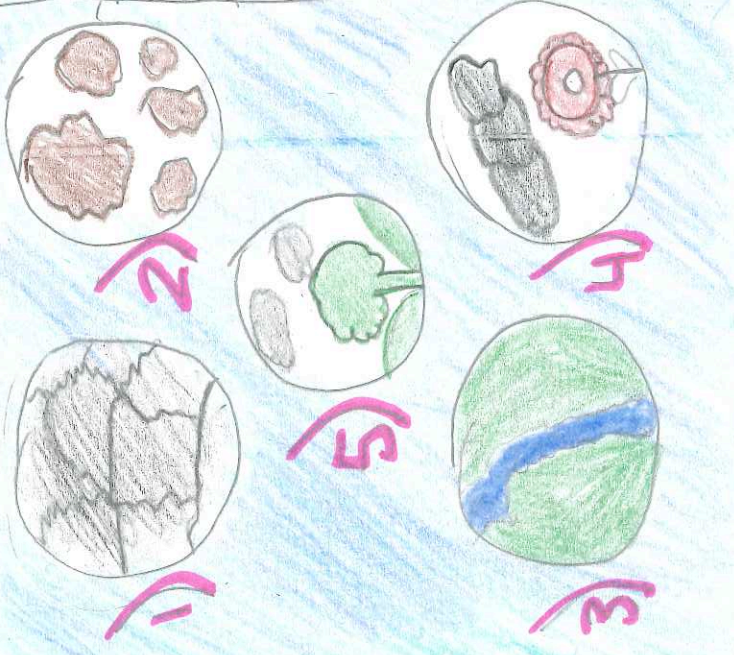
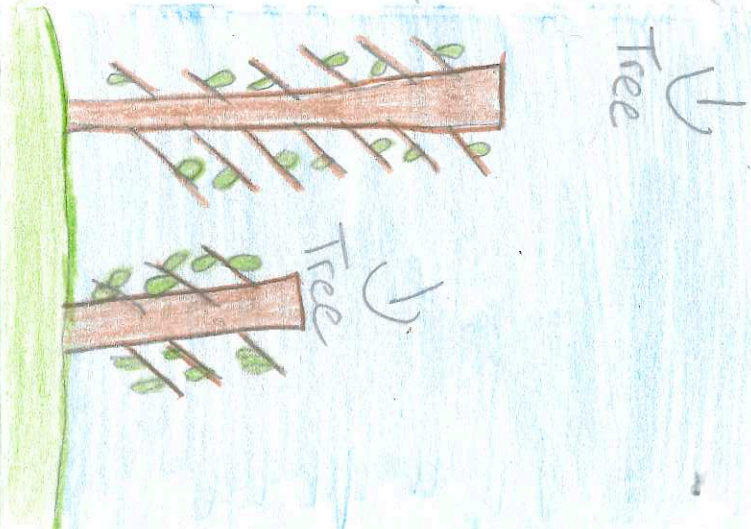


Primary Succession



- 1) Slowly retreating glacier exposes bare rock where nothing lives.
- 2) Most primary succession begins with lichens.
- 3) After many years, the soil is deep enough for mosses to grow.
- 4) Overtime, the soil layer thickens and the moss community is replaced by ferns.
- 5) After hundreds or even thousands of years, the soil may be deep enough to support a forest.



Regrowth of a Forest

A gradual development of a community over time, such as the regrowth of the burned areas of Yellowstone National Park is called Succession.

Succession:
The gradual regrowth or development of a community of organisms over time.

Secondary Succession



The first year after a farmer stops growing crops, or after some other major disturbance, many weeds grow.

By the second year, new weedy plants appear. Their seeds may have blown in to the field by the wind, or insects may have carried them.

In 5 to 15 years, small pine trees may start growing among the weeds. The pines continue to grow, and after about 100 years, a forest may form.

As older pines die, they may be replaced by hardwoods if the climate can support them.



Section 2 Ecological Succession

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