

Matter in Ecosystems

An ecosystem needs more than energy to function. It also needs matter. Matter is used by organisms in ecosystems for life processes. Most ecosystems need over 20 elements. Just the plants in most ecosystems need 16 elements. These essential elements are called **nutrients**.

NOTES - Nutrients and Cycles.pdf

Re-order the descriptions on the right to line up with the terms on the left.

non-mineral nutrients

magnesium - one of the atoms
in a chlorophyll molecule

mineral nutrients

needed in relatively large amounts for
plant growth (found in commercial fertilizers)
-nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium

macronutrients

iron - needed to make hemoglobin
molecules in red-blooded animals

primary macronutrients

nutrients which enter an
ecosystem from bedrock

secondary macronutrients

nutrients which enter an ecosystem
in the form of water and carbon dioxide
- oxygen, carbon, hydrogen
(building blocks of life)

micronutrient

required in greater amounts than micronutrients

Correct Matches

- non-mineral nutrients** → nutrients which enter an ecosystem in the form of water and carbon dioxide
- oxygen, carbon, hydrogen
(building blocks of life)
- mineral nutrients** → nutrients which enter an ecosystem from bedrock (*underneath soil*)
- macronutrients** → required in greater amounts than micronutrients
- primary macronutrients** → needed in relatively large amounts for plant growth (found in commercial fertilizers)
-nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium
- secondary macronutrients** → magnesium - one of the atoms in a chlorophyll molecule
- micronutrient** → iron - needed to make hemoglobin molecules in red-blooded animals

Attachments

[NOTES - Nutrients and Cycles.pdf](#)