

# Changes in Communities

## IV. Changes in Communities

### A. Unpredictable Changes

1. Fires
2. Floods
3. Volcanoes
4. Hurricanes
5. Any other natural disasters!



mudslides, tornadoes, tsunamis, earthquakes, drought

### B. Predictable Changes

1. Succession – the series of predictable changes that occur in a community over time.
  - a. Primary Succession – changes that occur in an area where \*NO soil or organisms exist  
 Examples: area after volcanic eruption  
 area uncovered by a melting ice

\*Pioneer Species – first Species to populate an area.

Examples: moss or lichens (fungi + algae)

overhead →

- b. Secondary Succession – changes that occur in an area where the ecosystem has been disturbed, but where soil and organisms still exist



- Occurs in a place where an ecosystem already exists
- Occurs more rapidly than primary succession

1

Factors in Succession	Primary Succession	Secondary Succession
Possible cause	Volcanic eruption	
Type of area		
Existing ecosystem?		

2

Circle the letter of each choice that describes an area where primary succession might occur.

- a. A new island formed by the eruption of an undersea volcano
- b. An area of bare rock uncovered by a melting ice sheet
- c. A clearing in a forest left by cutting down the trees
- d. An area without any trees or other plants following a forest fire

The first species to populate the area in primary succession are called

\_\_\_\_\_.

3

Pioneer species are often \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

4

How do pioneer species help develop soil?

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5

The series of changes that occur where the ecosystem has been disturbed but soil and organisms still exist is called \_\_\_\_\_.

What natural disturbances can result in secondary succession?

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6

What human activities can result in secondary succession?

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7

Is the following sentence true or false? Secondary succession occurs more slowly than primary succession. \_\_\_\_\_

The particular species that come and go in the process of succession depend on the \_\_\_\_\_.