**Name:**

**Date:**

**School:**

**Facilitator:**

8.02 Nitrogen Cycle

**Directions: Answer the following questions about the nitrogen cycle.**

1. Why is atmospheric nitrogen (N2) not available for plants and animals to use?
2. What is the process called that converts atmospheric nitrogen into organic nitrogen compounds that can be used by plants?
3. What types of plants are able to convert atmospheric nitrogen into nitrogen forms that can be used by plants? In 3-4 sentences, describe how these plants carry out this process.
4. What are the nitrogen compounds in the soil that plants can use? [hint: 2 types/ions]
5. What is the process called when nitrogen compounds in the soil that plants can use are converted back to atmospheric nitrogen? What organisms help carry out this process?
6. Why is it important that plants and animals take in nitrogen?