

Ecological Succession Tasksheet

Complete the following tasks with the outcome of producing a set a high quality notes on the subject of 'Ecological Succession'.

Your developed knowledge will then be applied to a psammosere case study.

1. Define '**Ecological Succession**'
2. What is a '**sere**' in terms of ecological succession?
3. Give an example of a **sere** within a **hydrosere**.
4. What is a '**pioneer community**'?
5. Give an example of a **pioneer community** within a **lithosere**.
6. What is a '**climatic climax community**'?
7. Give details of the '**climatic climax community**' for the location of your birth and one other global location.
8. What is a '**plagioclimax**'?
9. List two natural interruptions and two human interruptions to ecological succession that could produce a '**plagioclimax**'.
10. What is a '**primary succession**'?
11. Produce a flow diagram that shows the seres within a lithosere ecological succession, for a given location.
12. What is a '**secondary succession**'?
13. What is '**subclimax vegetation**'?
14. What qualities make a plant species the '**dominant species**' within a sere?
15. Using the example of a tropical rainforest – describe how plants **compete** for the available resources of sunlight and nutrients. Your notes should include named examples.
16. Research 'Japanese Knotweed' as a plant species that has **invaded** the UK, Europe, USA, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. Your notes should include how this foreign species was introduced, the impact it is having on native ecosystems and why it has been so successful as an invading species.