

The Wind Blows: CHNOPS

Instructions: To play The Wind Blows, which is similar to musical chairs, there must be one less seat than participants in the circle (in our class, we ask that each student sit on one gardening cushion). When the person standing reads the prompt on front of the card, all players for whom the sentence applies must stand up and find a new seat, moving at least three spaces away from their original seat. The card reader must also find a seat. Once all but one participant has found their seat, the original card reader reads the back of the card aloud, and then passes the deck to the new student left standing. The new student then chooses a new Wind Blows card, reads the prompt aloud, and races to find a seat. The game continues until time or cards have run out.

Cards

Make a card with “The wind blows for...” prompt on the front and the associated information (written in italics below) on the back. Cards can be used in any order.

FRONT OF CARD: The wind blows for...anyone who has seen an earthworm in the garden.

BACK OF CARD: *Earthworms along with ants make phosphorus available by breaking up rock particles.*

1. The wind blows for... anyone who is alive!
Carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, and sulfur are the building blocks of life. In fact, oxygen alone comprises 65% of the human body.
2. The wind blows for... anyone that breathes.
When humans inhale, they take in oxygen (O₂). When humans exhale, they release carbon and oxygen (CO₂), which trees and plants take in.
3. The wind blows for... anyone who has tested the soil pH of the garden.
Microorganisms like bacteria thrive in a pH between 6 and 7. Microorganisms make nutrients available for plants to absorb.
4. The wind blows for... anyone who knows what the “B” stands for in FBI.
Bacteria break down and excrete usable forms of phosphorus, carbon, nitrogen and sulfur through their bodies.
5. The wind blows for... anyone that has ever eaten a bean or pea.
Beans and peas belong to the legume family. Bacteria live in the nodules on the roots of legumes and fix nitrogen into usable compounds for plants to absorb.
6. The wind blows for... anyone that is sitting on a straw bale in the Ramada.
Straw and other dry, woody materials carry carbon, and are added to the compost as part of the browns layer.
7. The wind blows for...anyone who knows that animal poop is called manure.
Animal manure is an excellent source of phosphorus, sulfur & nitrogen for the compost pile.

8. The wind blows for...anyone who has put food scrapes into any of the compost bins in the Edible Schoolyard kitchen.
Food scraps carry nitrogen. In the compost piles, the FBI converts nitrogen into usable compounds for plants to absorb.
9. The wind blows for...anyone who has watered something in the garden.
Water is made up of two hydrogens and one oxygen. Plants absorb these nutrients when we water them.
10. The wind blows for...anyone that has ever turned a compost pile.
When we turn the compost pile we are adding oxygen. Microorganisms need oxygen to live.