Lab 12. Matter in Ecosystems: How Healthy Are Your Local Ecosystems?

Farmer Johnson has two small ponds on his property. The first pond is next to a cornfield near the top
of a hill. It has lots of fish and some vegetation. The second pond is also near the cornfield, but farther
down the hill. The second pond has no fish and is almost full of vegetation. Use what you know about
how matter moves through an ecosystem to explain why the two ponds have very different
characteristics.

2. Organic farming involves growing fruits and vegetables without using any chemicals on the crops like pesticides (chemicals that kill bugs) or herbicides (chemicals that kill unwanted weeds). Use what you know about matter and how it moves through an ecosystem to explain why organic farming is a popular choice.

3.	Observations are more important in science than inferences.
	a. I agree with this statement.b. I disagree with this statement.

Explain your answer, using an example from your investigation about matter in ecosystems.

- 4. In science, data and evidence are the same thing.
 - a. I agree with this statement.
 - b. I disagree with this statement.

Explain your answer, using an example from your investigation about matter in ecosystems.

5.	When scientists study the natural world, they often need to keep track of how matter and energy moves through a system. Explain why understanding the flow of matter and energy is important, using an example from your investigation about matter in ecosystems.
6.	Scientists study complex systems that have many related parts. Change in one aspect of a system can have impacts on many other parts of the system. Explain how changes in one part of an ecosystem can influence other parts of the system, using an example from your investigation about matter in ecosystems.