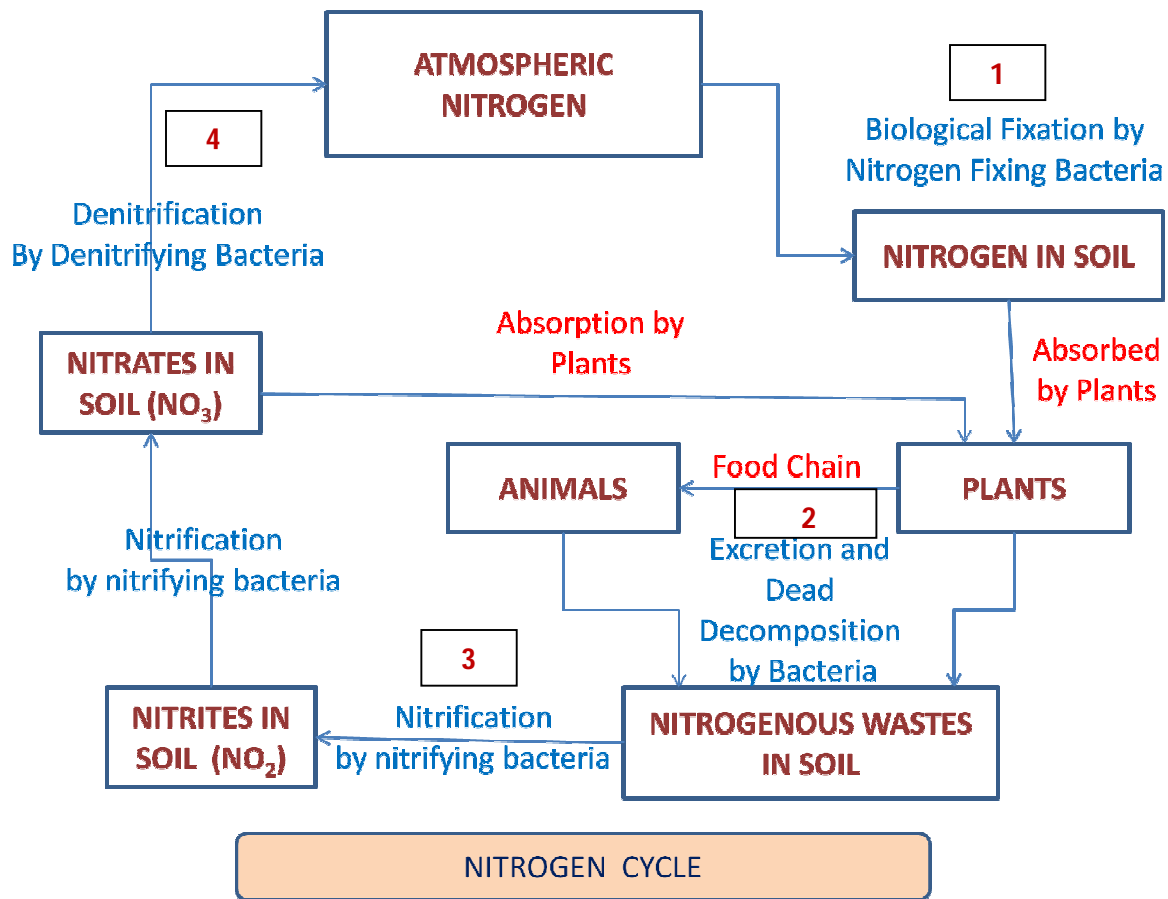


Role of Microorganisms to maintain the Nitrogen Cycle



1. The **Nitrogen fixing Bacteria** helps to fix the atmospheric nitrogen with the soil in the form of nitrogenous compounds.
2. Some bacteria and fungi decompose the excretory matters and dead remains of the living organisms to get decomposed and get mixed with the soil which help to mix up the nitrogenous remains of the living organisms within the soil.
3. The **Nitrifying Bacteria** helps to convert the nitrogenous wastes into Nitrites (NO₂) and then Nitrites (NO₂) to Nitrates (NO₃).
4. The **Denitrifying Bacteria** helps to convert the Nitrates (NO₃) to Nitrogen Gas (N₂).

Importance of Nitrogen Cycle: Plants make Protein with nitrogen for themselves and the same protein is obtained directly or indirectly by the animals. So continuation of nitrogen cycle is a necessary event in the nature to maintain the 78% nitrogen level in the atmosphere as well as continuity of life on the Earth.

So, it is obvious that in case the concerned bacteria and fungus were not present in the soil, then the nitrogen cycle will discontinue and hence the continuity of life on Earth.