Mutualism in Action Assessment

These questions could be discussed in small groups or given as part of an assessment at the end of the unit.

1. How does the mutualistic relationship between legumes and rhizobia fit into the nitrogen cycle?
2. Why would a farmer plant a legume cover crop and then plow this crop into the soil?
3. Are rhizobia always beneficial for plants? How may abiotic factors, such as light and nitrogen availability affect mutualism between plant and rhizobia?