

Food Chains

Use the words below to complete the passage about food chains.

soil	omnivores	sun	nutrients	secondary
sunlight	fungi	animals	plants	

All living things get their energy from the _____. Plants get energy directly from the sun. Animals get energy indirectly from the sun.

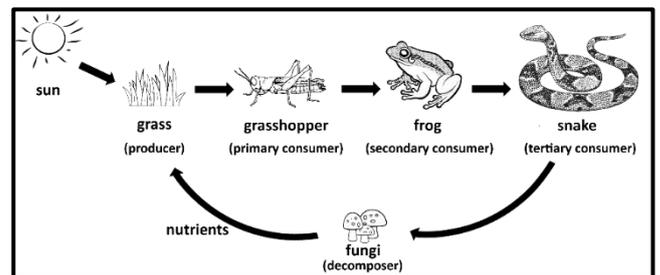
Producers

_____ are known as producers because they use the sunlight to produce their own energy. They absorb _____ and turn it into energy that allows them to grow. This process is called photosynthesis.

Consumers

Consumers get their energy from other living things; they do not produce their own.

_____ are consumers. They eat plants and other animals and take their energy.



Animals that eat only plants are called herbivores. Herbivores are primary consumers. Primary consumers get their energy directly from producers. Animals that eat herbivores are called _____ consumers. Animals that eat other animals are called carnivores. Tertiary consumers get their energy by eating other carnivorous animals. _____ are animals that eat plants and animals. These animals can switch between the different orders of consumers.

Decomposers

Decomposers such as worms, bacteria and _____, get their energy from eating dead plants and animals. It is because of decomposers that dead organisms begin to rot (decompose). Decomposers can be thought of as recyclers. They recycle by allowing the _____ trapped in the dead organisms to release back into the _____. These nutrients allow plants to grow.



dry	acacia	bison	owls
baobab	grazing	shrubs	zebras
cheetahs		grassland	

Food Chains **Answers**

Use the words below to complete the passage about food chains.

soil	omnivores	sun	nutrients	secondary
sunlight	fungi	animals	plants	

All living things get their energy from the **sun**. Plants get energy directly from the sun. Animals get energy indirectly from the sun.

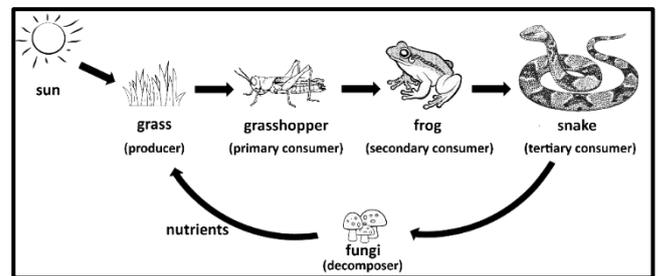
Producers

Plants are known as producers because they use the sunlight to produce their own energy.

They absorb **sunlight** and turn it into energy that allows them to grow. This process is called photosynthesis.

Consumers

Consumers get their energy from other living things; they do not produce their own. **Animals** are consumers. They eat plants and other animals and take their energy. Animals that eat



only plants are called herbivores. Herbivores are primary consumers. Primary consumers get their energy directly from producers. Animals that eat herbivores are called **secondary** consumers. Animals that eat other animals are called carnivores. Tertiary consumers get their energy by eating other carnivorous animals. **Omnivores** are animals that eat plants and animals. These animals can switch between the different orders of consumers.

Decomposers

Decomposers such as worms, bacteria and **fungi**, get their energy from eating dead plants and animals. It is because of decomposers that dead organisms begin to rot (decompose). Decomposers can be thought of as recyclers. They recycle by allowing the **nutrients** trapped in the dead organisms to release back into the **soil**. These nutrients allow plants to grow.

C	R	O	Z	E	D	P	G	V	F	E	E
A	P	M	D	Z	E	R	Z	K	S	F	C
R	L	N	E	H	C	O	X	A	U	N	O
N	A	I	C	E	O	D	D	O	N	Q	N
I	N	V	F	R	M	U	B	I	R	A	S
V	T	O	C	B	P	C	Y	R	C	N	U
O	S	R	E	I	O	E	I	R	O	I	M
R	W	E	N	V	S	R	P	S	J	M	E
E	E	S	E	O	E	S	E	O	L	A	R
S	M	I	R	R	R	L	G	B	M	L	S
P	L	J	G	E	S	S	B	M	Z	S	J
N	D	P	Y	S	D	K	O	A	Z	E	Y

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