

# ROLES OF ORGANISMS IN AN ECOSYSTEM

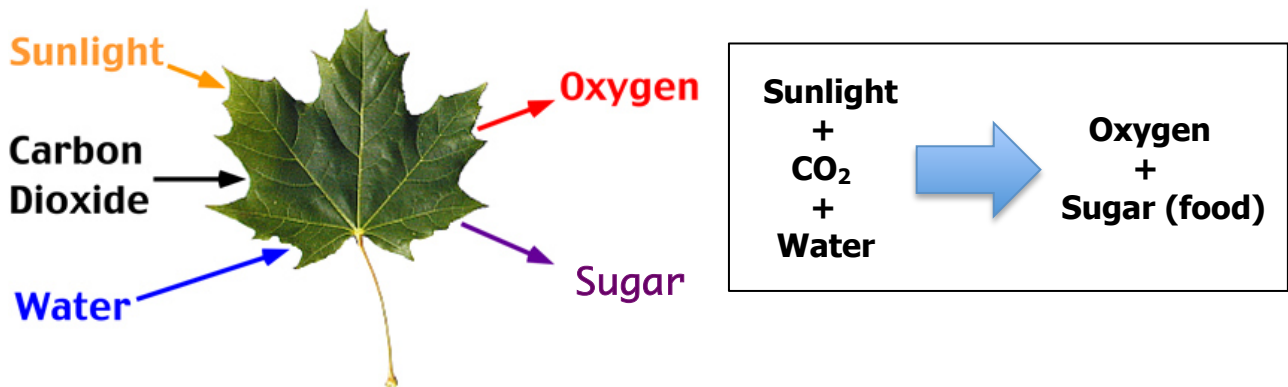
## Interactions in the Environment #2

### Producers

Producers are organisms able to make their own food using \_\_\_\_\_ (non-living) elements, such as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.



Plants make their own energy (in the form of \_\_\_\_\_) through a process called \_\_\_\_\_.



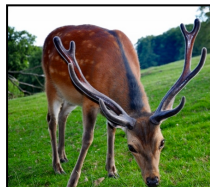
### Consumers



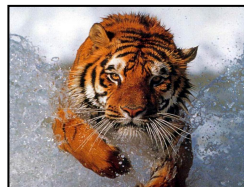
Consumers are organisms that \_\_\_\_\_ other organisms for energy, such as \_\_\_\_\_ and killer \_\_\_\_\_.



**Herbivores** are organisms that eat \_\_\_\_\_ for energy.



**Carnivores** are organisms that eat \_\_\_\_\_ for energy.



**Omnivores** are organisms that eat BOTH \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for energy.



**Scavengers** are organisms that eat \_\_\_\_\_ organisms for energy.



**Detritivores** are organisms that eat dead \_\_\_\_\_ material and \_\_\_\_\_ for energy.

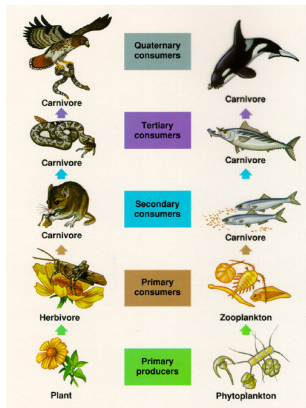
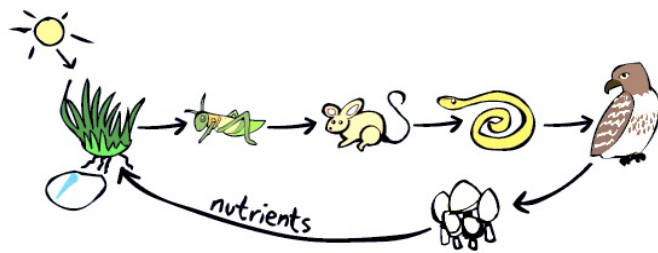


**Decomposers** are organisms that break down \_\_\_\_\_ and animals, and recycle \_\_\_\_\_ back into the ecosystem.



### Food Chains

A food chain is a model to show how \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ flow from one organism to another in an \_\_\_\_\_.



There are different "levels" to a food chain.

What patterns or trends do you notice with food chains as you move up the chain?

### Food Web

- model that shows the \_\_\_\_\_ between several different food chains.
- always starts with \_\_\_\_\_ and branches off



### Think about it

1. What would happen to the food web if the mice were eliminated?