

Eco-Links Vocabulary Words

Food Chain	Transfer of energy through various stages as a result of feeding patterns of a series of organisms.
Food Web	A more complicated but more realistic version of the food chain that shows how interconnected everything is. The interconnected feeding relationships in a food chain found in a particular place and time.
Carnivore	Organism that eats other animals.
Consumer	Organism that feeds on other organisms.
Decomposer	Any organism that feeds or obtains nutrients by breaking down organic matter from dead organisms.
Herbivore	Animal that feeds on green plants (or photosynthetic single celled organisms) or their seeds, fruit or nectar.
Omnivore	Animal that feeds on both plants and animals.
Organism	Any living being that functions to maintain life and its activities.
Plankton	Small often microscopic forms of plant and animal life that live in the upper layers of fresh and salt water.
Photosynthesis	Process by which green plants capture sunlight in order to combine carbon dioxide and water to make sugars and other plant compounds.
Predator	Any animal that hunts, kills and eats another animal (the prey).
Producers	Organisms that make their own food using the energy of sunlight.
Scavenger	An animal that feeds on dead plant or animal remains.

Trophic Level Position occupied by a species (or a group of species) in a food chain.