

**3-1 and 3-2**

**Food Chains, Food Webs and Energy Flow**

Pages 63-73

Objectives: Students will:

- A) Define 7 words related to food webs and energy flow.
- B) Compare energy flow and nutrient cycling in an ecosystem.
- C) Summarize the relationship between producers, consumers, and decomposers in a food chain/web.
- D) Summarize the energy flow at each trophic level in a food chain/web

B) Compare energy flow and nutrient cycling in an ecosystem.

**Energy Flow vs. Nutrient Cycling**

Energy flows through ecosystems –

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ via \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ temporarily in \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ in the form of \_\_\_\_\_.



Nutrients cycle within ecosystems –

- 1. They are \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_) that \_\_\_\_\_ within the ecosystem
- 2. They are found at different \_\_\_\_\_ in different \_\_\_\_\_ of the system.
- 3. This is the law of \_\_\_\_\_: Matter is never \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_, it is simply \_\_\_\_\_.



**Obj. A) Define 7 words related to food webs and energy flow**

Vocabulary Word	Link Word	Reminds me of?	Because
Autotroph or Producer			
Heterotroph or Consumer			
Decomposer			
Food Chain			

C) Summarize the relationship between producers, consumers, and decomposers in a food chain/web.

D) Summarize the energy flow at each trophic level in a food chain/web

What happens to the level of energy as you move through each trophic level?

Energy Pyramids and Food Chains



Why do you think this happens?

**Energy Pyramid**

Shows the relative amount of energy available at each \_\_\_\_\_ level. Organisms use about \_\_\_\_\_ percent of this energy for \_\_\_\_\_. The rest is lost as \_\_\_\_\_.

What percent of the energy transfers from one trophic level to the next?

For what two things is the other 90% used?

**Obj. A) Define 7 words related to food webs and energy flow**

Vocabulary Word	Link Word	Reminds me of?	Because
Food Web			
Trophic Level			
Energy Pyramid			

C) Summarize the relationship between producers, consumers, and decomposers in a food chain/web.

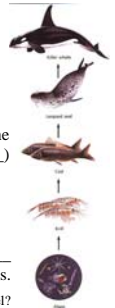
D) Summarize the energy flow at each trophic level in a food chain/web

**Food Chains**

\_\_\_\_\_ is transferred in a system from one organism to another. This transfer of energy from organism to organism makes up a \_\_\_\_\_.

Each level of consumption is called a \_\_\_\_\_ are therefore in the \_\_\_\_\_ level.

- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ = who are eaten by... you get the idea.
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ = who are eaten by the \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ = Next come the \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ = Photosynthetic \_\_\_\_\_ which range from single-celled bacteria to redwood trees.



At which trophic level is the highest level of energy found? Why do you think it is this level?

- C) Summarize the relationship between producers, consumers, and decomposers in a food chain/web.
- D) Summarize the energy flow at each trophic level in a food chain/web

Most of the sun's energy is reflected or absorbed by the atmosphere or Earth's surface.

\_\_\_\_\_ of the energy sent by the Sun is available to life on Earth.  
Of this energy, \_\_\_\_\_ is trapped by green plants or algae.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
All life depends upon energy and \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Only about \_\_\_\_\_ of the energy from one trophic level can get to the next one through consumption. The rest of the energy is lost as heat.

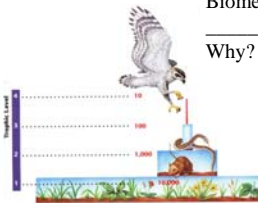
- C) Summarize the relationship between producers, consumers, and decomposers in a food chain/web.
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Energy and the Food Chain

If \_\_\_\_\_ of the energy can be transferred from one trophic level to the one above it, each trophic level must have \_\_\_\_\_ the energy as the one above it.

The number of \_\_\_\_\_ depends upon the number of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ trophic level.

Biomes with \_\_\_\_\_ numbers of primary \_\_\_\_\_ have short food \_\_\_\_\_.  
Why?



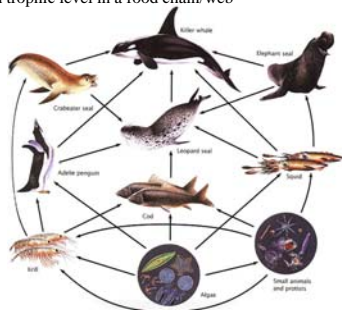
In this diagram, which trophic level receives the lowest amount of energy?

Predict what would happen to this food chain if there was a large decrease in the number of mice.

- C) Summarize the relationship between producers, consumers, and decomposers in a food chain/web.
- D) Summarize the energy flow at each trophic level in a food chain/web

What is a food web?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



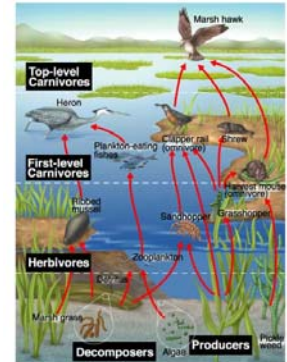
Most animals at \_\_\_\_\_ trophic levels occupy \_\_\_\_\_ trophic levels simultaneously because of \_\_\_\_\_ in their \_\_\_\_\_.

- C) Summarize the relationship between producers, consumers, and decomposers in a food chain/web.
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The stability of an ecosystem depends on its number of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

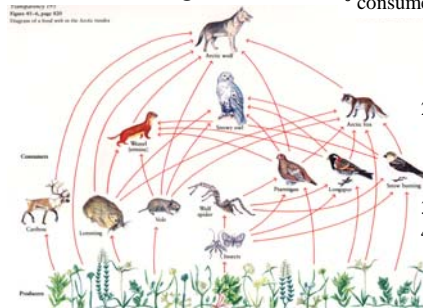
Why are decomposers important to an ecosystem's stability?

Why are producers important to an ecosystem's stability?



Understanding Check

Identify producers, 1<sup>o</sup>, 2<sup>o</sup>, 3<sup>o</sup> & 4<sup>o</sup> consumers in this food web



1. A snowy owl, that eats a vole that eats plants is what?
2. An arctic fox that eats a Longspur that eats insects that eat plants is what?
3. The caribou?
4. The arctic fox that eats the ptarmigan that eats a wolf spider that eats insects that eats plants.

Understanding Check Questions

1. What are the two most important categories when it comes to the stability of a food web?
2. Why are the two that you identified in #1 so important?
3. What percentage of energy transfers from one trophic level to the next?
4. Identify the two reasons energy is lost as you move up an energy pyramid.
5. What happens to nutrients in an ecosystem?