

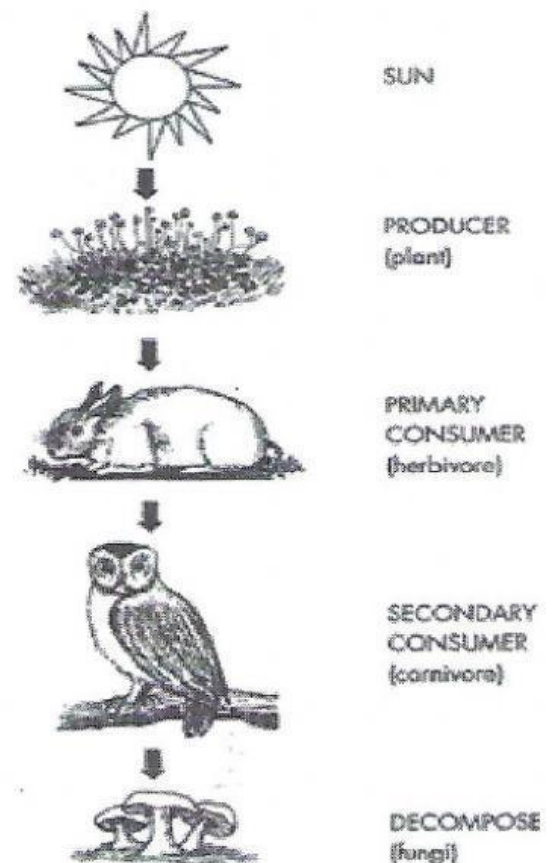
Food Chain and Web

All living things need energy to live. Living things get their energy from **food**. A **food chain** is the flow of food in an ecosystem from one living thing to another. A food chain also shows how energy moves through the environment. The energy that the plant gets from the sun is transferred to all of the animals in the chain, this is called **energy transformation**.

Living things in an ecosystem can be classified as **producers**, **consumers** and **decomposer**. **Producers** are plants; they make their own food. **Consumers** are animals; they eat other living things as food. **Decomposers** are living things such as mushrooms and earthworms; they break down dead plants and animals for food. The name for animals that eat only plants is a **herbivore**. The name for animals that eat only meat is called **carnivores**. The name for animals that eat both plants and meat is called **omnivores**.

The food chain begins with a **green plant**, the producer. It continues with an animal, the consumer that eats the green plant. A food chain may include one or more other consumers. Therefore, the energy that the plant gets from the sun is transferred to all of the animals in the chain, this is called **energy transfer**.

A **food web** is a combination of several food chains.



Date: _____

Directions: Circle the letter for the best answer for each question.

1. Your body changes food into _____. [1]

- A. oxygen B. sunlight C. energy

2. Food and energy move in a path called a _____. [1]

- A. food web B. food pyramid C. food chain D. food line

3. Most food begins with _____. [1]

- A. vegetable B. the sun C. meat D. water

4. What is the main idea of the text? [1]

- A. You need energy.
B. Plants make their own food.
C. Food and energy move in a path we call a food chain.
D. Plants in the ocean are food for animals.

5. Write the name given to animals that live on other animals. [1]

6. The animals that other animals eat is called. [1] _____

7. Name TWO animals that eat other animals. [2]

8. What is the movement of energy from one animal to the next called? [2]

9. What are consumers? [1]

10. What are decomposers? [1]

11. Who are producers? [1]

12. What is a food web? [1]