



Name: _____



The Unique Producer

Every food chain begins with a producer. Plants are producers. They make their own food, which creates energy for them to grow, reproduce and survive. Being able to make their own food makes them unique; they are the only living things on Earth that can make their own source of food energy. Of course, they require sun, water and air to thrive. Given these three essential ingredients, you will have a healthy plant to begin the food chain.

All plants are producers!

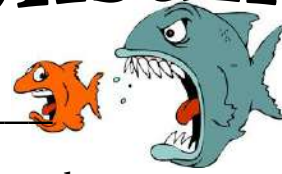
Draw the different producers below.



Apple Tree	Rose Bushes	Watermelon Plant	Grasses
Blueberry Bush	Flower	Fern	Daisy

List the three essential needs that every producer must have in order to live.

Consumers



Name: _____

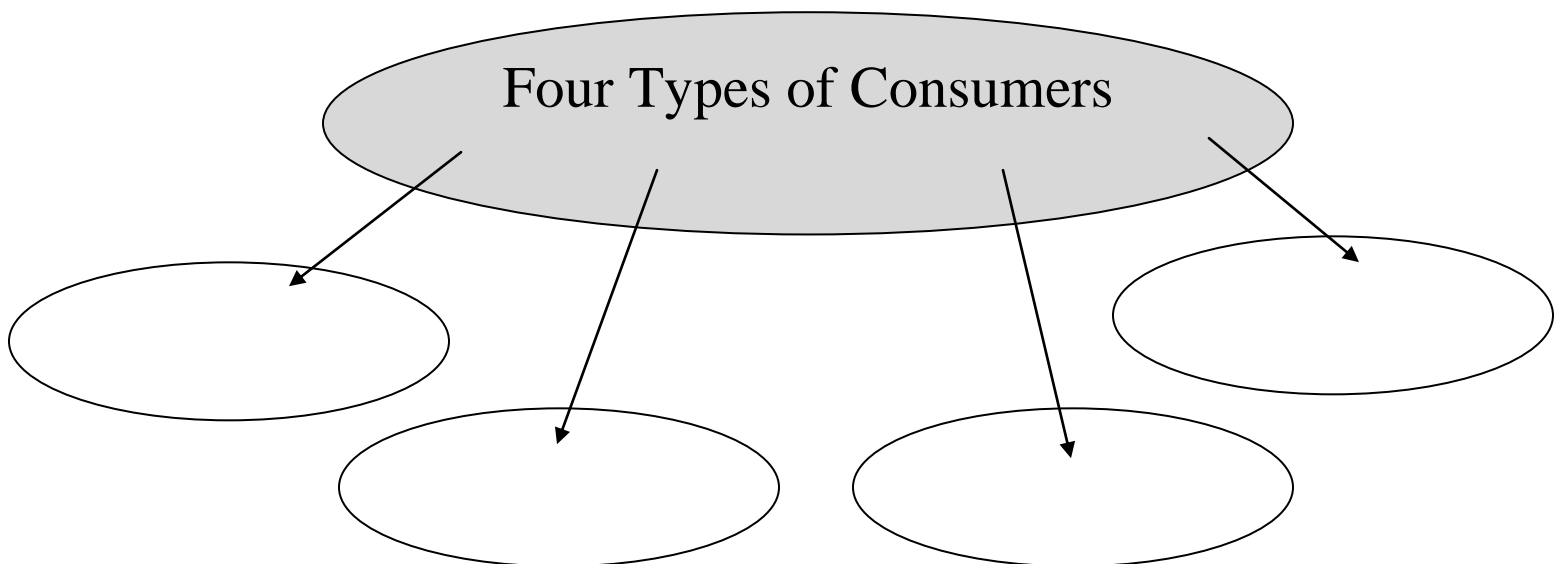
Producers can make their own food and energy, but consumers are different. Living things that have to hunt, gather and eat their food are called consumers. Consumers have to eat to gain energy or they will die. There are four types of consumers: omnivores, carnivores, herbivores and decomposers.

Herbivores are living things that only eat plants to get the food and energy they need. Animals like whales, elephants, cows, pigs, rabbits, and horses are herbivores.

Carnivores are living things that only eat meat. Animals like owls, tigers, sharks and cougars are carnivores. You would not catch a plant in these animals' mouths.

Then, we have the omnivores. Omnivores will eat both plants and animals to get energy. Whichever food source is abundant or available is what they will eat. Animals like the brown bear, dogs, turtles, raccoons and even some people are omnivores.

At last, we have the decomposers. Decomposers break down dead plant and animal material into small particles. This material puts nutrients back into the soil to be reused. Mushrooms and earthworms are great examples of decomposers.



Name: _____



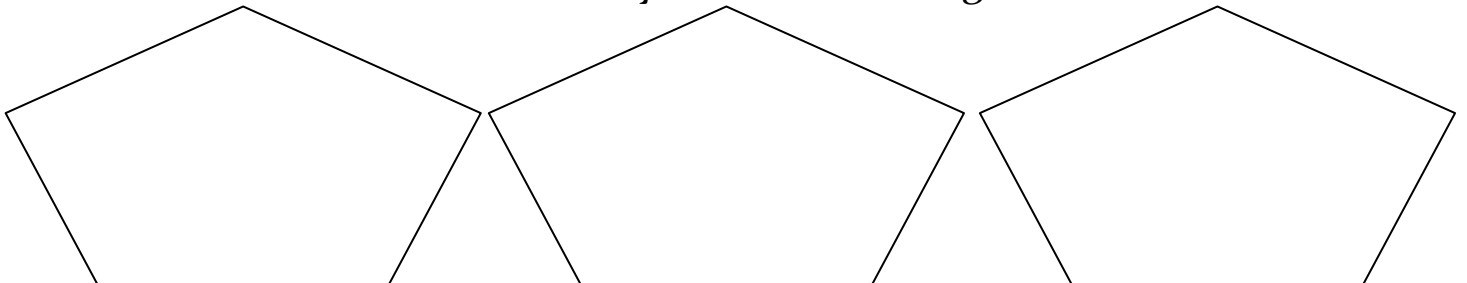
What types of food do these consumers eat?

Omnivores	Carnivores	Herbivores	Decomposers
Define	Define	Define	Define
Illustrate foods they eat	Illustrate foods they eat	Illustrate foods they eat	Illustrate foods they eat
List examples of living things that are omnivores	List examples of living things that are carnivores	List examples of living things that are herbivores	List examples of living things that are decomposers

What type of consumer are you?



Draw and label three of your favorite things to consume.

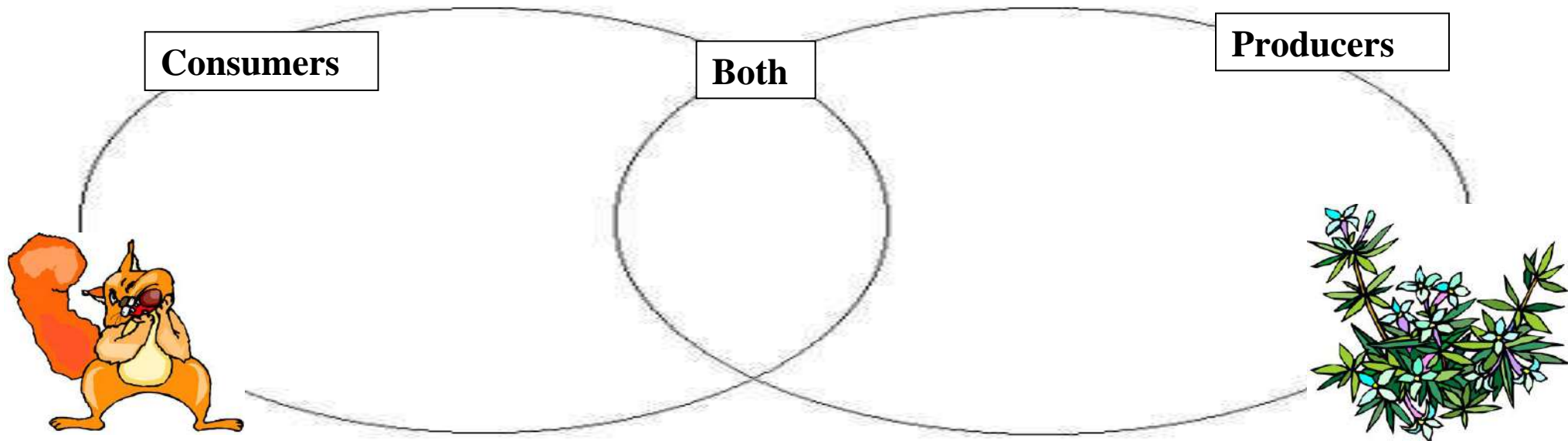


Producers vs Consumers

Name: _____

Use the words in the box to compare the producers and consumers in this Venn diagram.

make their own food	raccoon	living things
plants	need sun, water, & air	tree
must hunt or search for food to eat		wolf



How are consumers and producers similar?	How are consumers and producers different?

Name: _____

Word Search

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

Word Bank

ANIMALS

CARNIVORE

CHAIN

CONSUMER

DECOMPOSER

FOOD

HERBIVORE

LIVING

OMNIVORE

ORGANISM

PLANTS

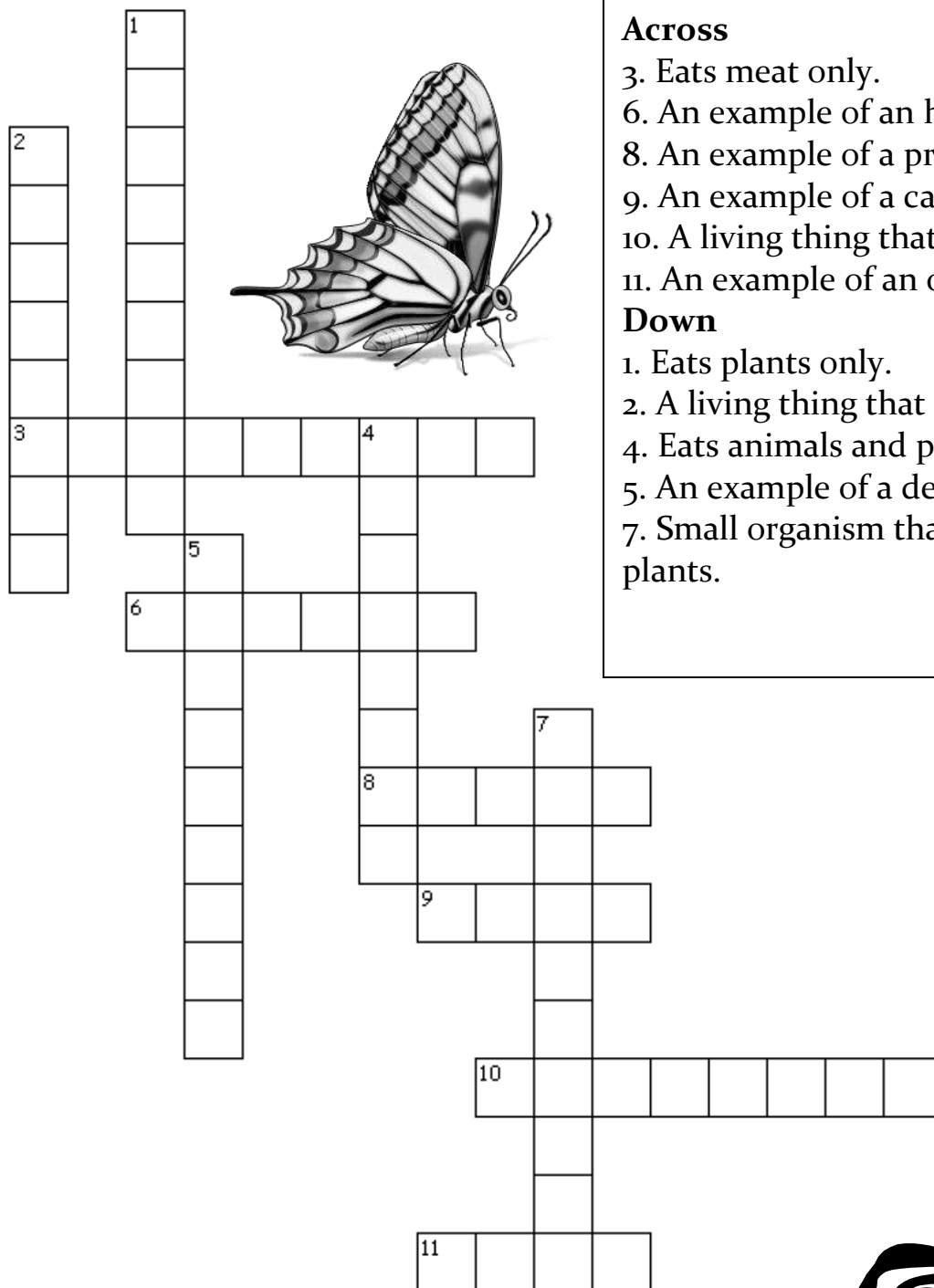
PRODUCER

SUNLIGHT

WATER



Crossword Puzzle



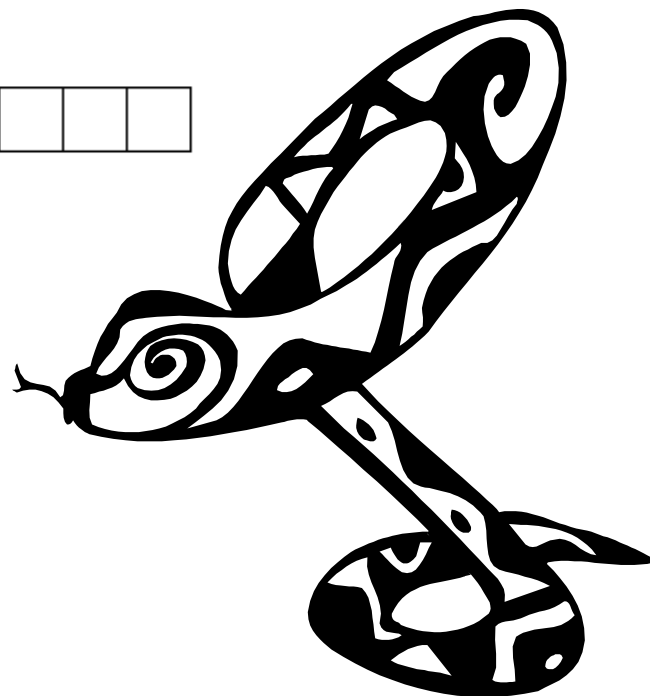
Across

3. Eats meat only.
6. An example of an herbivore.
8. An example of a producer.
9. An example of a carnivore.
10. A living thing that has to hunt for its food.
11. An example of an omnivore.

Down

1. Eats plants only.
2. A living thing that can make its own food.
4. Eats animals and plants.
5. An example of a decomposer.
7. Small organism that breaks down dead plants.

Who do you think is at the top of the food chain?



consumer

Something or someone who has to hunt, search, and gather their own food to eat. They eat plants or animals.

producer

Plants that make their own food by using sunlight, air and water.

decomposer

Organism that can break down dead plants and animals so that they may be reused.

herbivore

Animal that eats only plants.

omnivore

Animal that eats plants and animals.

carnivore

Animal that eats meat.

Cut and sort these consumers.

mushrooms



birds



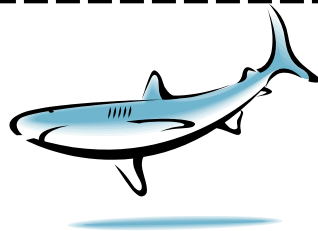
cats



wolves

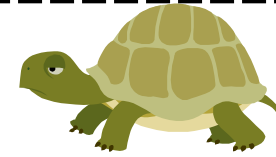


COWS



sharks

earthworms

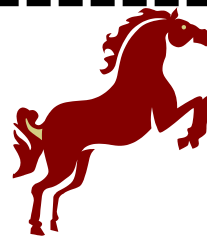


turtles

elephants



dogs



horses

tigers





Types of Consumers



Decomposer	Carnivore	Herbivore	Omnivore

Study Guide

Know these terms. Illustrate cards. Cut cards out and then play matching game.

consumers 	Something or someone who has to hunt, search and gather their own food to eat. They eat plants or animals.
producers 	Plants that make their own food through sunlight, air, and water.
decomposers	Organism that can break down plants and animals so that they may be reused.
herbivore	Animal that eats only plants.
omnivore	Animal that eats plants and animals.
carnivore	Animal that eats plants and animals.

- Be able to identify and give examples of each word below

consumer	Animals, people, insects, organisms
producer	plants
decomposer	Earthworms, mushrooms
herbivore	Mice, deer, horses, cows, rabbits
omnivore	Birds, raccoons, turtles, dogs
carnivore	Cats, lions, wolves, owls

- Be able to put together a food chain
- Know that the food chain begins with a producer