

Interactions within ecosystems Cheat Sheet by Study geek via cheatography.com/203345/cs/43305/

Interdependence of organisms	
Producer:	Makes its own food via photosynthesis
Primary consumer	Feeds mainly on plants
Secondary consumer	Feeds mainly on other animals
Scavenger	Feeds on dead animals
Decomposer	Feeds on dead and decay matters

Food chain (cont)		
Energy conversion	from light energy from the sun to chemical energy in food at each trophic level	
Definition:		
Herbivores	animals that eat plants	
Carnivores	animals that eat meat	
Omnivores	animals that eat both plants and meat	

Food chain

Producer -> Primary consumer -> Secondary consumer -> Tertiary consumer

From one tropic level to the next tropic level, 90% of the energy is lost as heat to the surroundings

Only 10% of the energy from one tropic level is transferred to the next tropic level

Food chain	
A typical food chain	shows the sequence of organisms through which energy from the sun is transferred
A typical food chain usually has no more than five trophic levels	Energy in food is not sufficient to support the growth of living organisms after five trophic levels
	recall: only 10% of the energy is transferred from one trophic level to the next trophic level
Pyramid of numbers	represents the number of living organism in each trophic level
processes that cause energy in food to be lost	e.g. Respiration, undigested food passing out of body as waste



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