

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

# Ecosystem Vocabulary

<b>Abiotic Factors</b>	Abiotic factors are non-living components of an ecosystem like the sun, water, soil, temperature, altitude, nutrients, pH and air. They influence the living components of an ecosystem.
<b>Autotrophs</b>	The organisms that produce their own food using sunlight, carbon dioxide and water. Examples: algae, phytoplankton and plants.
<b>Biome</b>	Biome is a community of plants and animals occupying a particular region.
<b>Biotic Factors</b>	They are the living organisms of an ecosystem. Biotic factors include producers, consumers and decomposers.
<b>Carnivores</b>	Carnivores are plants or animals that eat other animals.
<b>Decomposers</b>	Decomposers are a group of organisms that break down dead plants and animals. Example: Bacteria and fungi
<b>Ecosystem</b>	A biological community made up of living organisms and non-living components such as air, water and mineral soil.
<b>Food Chain</b>	Food chain shows the flow of energy in an ecosystem. It starts with a producer and ends with a consumer.
<b>Food Web</b>	A series of food chains form a food web.
<b>Habitat</b>	The community of biotic and abiotic factors in an environment.
<b>Herbivores</b>	Herbivores are animals that feed on plants for their energy.

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## Heterotrophs

Heterotrophs are organisms that acquire energy by eating other plants or animals. Herbivores, carnivores and omnivores are examples of heterotrophs.

## Omnivores

Omnivores are animals that eat both plants and animals.

## Predators

Predators are animals that consume other animals for food.

## Prey

The animals that are often hunted and killed by predators for food.

## Primary Consumers

Primary consumers are animals that feed only on plants. All organisms under primary consumers are classified as herbivores.

## Producers

Producers are organisms that make their own food using sunlight.

## Quaternary Consumers

Quaternary consumers are animals that feed on tertiary consumers. They are the apex predators.

## Secondary Consumers

Secondary consumers are animals that feed on primary consumers.

## Tertiary Consumers

Tertiary consumers are animals that feed on secondary consumers.

## Trophic pyramid

A trophic pyramid shows the flow of energy and the feeding relationships between groups of organisms.