 [gpb.org/lets-go-enviro](https://www.gpb.org/education/lets-go-enviro) Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**FOOD CHAINS AND FOOD WEBS**

**DIRECTIONS:** Use the following word bank to match the term with its definition.

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| tertiary consumer producer decomposer secondary consumer  heterotroph autotroph carnivore primary consumer  trophic levels herbivore food chain energy source |

1. The transfer of food energy from plants to one or more animals in a linear sequence is known as a(n)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. An organism that uses light energy or energy stored in chemical compounds to make energy-rich compounds is known as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. The sun, which provides energy to plants through photosynthesis, is a type of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. An organism that cannot make its own food and feeds on other organisms is called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ uses sunlight to make food.
6. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ obtains food from photosynthetic organisms.
7. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ eats meat in the form of other animals.
8. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ breaks down and releases nutrients from dead organisms.
9. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is an organism that only eats producers and is a herbivore.
10. A(n)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is an animal that obtains its nutrition by eating primary consumers and secondary consumers.
11. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ occupies the third trophic level in a typical food chain, and it feeds on primary consumers for nutrients and energy.
12. The energy levels or steps in a food chain or food web are known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**DIRECTIONS:** Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Using complete sentences, explain how energy flows through an ecosystem. Be sure to include all abiotic and biotic factors.

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1. What is a food web, and how does it differ from a food chain?

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1. Construct a food chain of the scenario below. Label the energy source, producer, primary consumer, secondary consumer, and tertiary consumer.

*An owl eats a snake, the snake eats a squirrel, the squirrel eats a nut, the nut receives energy from the sun.*