Animal Adaptations

adaptation	a trait or behavior that helps a living thing survive in its environment	
camouflage	an adaptation by which an animal hides by blending in with its surroundings	
hibernate	when an animal lives off its body fat and uses very little energy	
mimicry	when one kind of living thing has similar traits to look like another	
migration	to change locations periodically	
stimulus	something in an environment that causes an organism to react	

Animal Relationships

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competition	the struggle between organisms for food, water, or other needs	
consumer	cannot make their own food - must eat other organisms	
decomposer	break down dead organisms (worms, bacteria, fungi)	
energy pyramid	shows how energy is used in an ecosystem (producers are always at the bottom)	
food chain	shows how energy passes from one organism to another	
food web	shows relationships between animals in food chains	
predator	a carnivore that hunts for food	
prey	a hunted organism	
producer	organisms that make their own food (plants, algae) First source of all food chains	

Types of consumers

consumer type	diet	example
herbivore	eat only producers	rodents, rabbits, deer
omnivore	eat producers & consumers	raccoons, bears, people
carnivore	eat only consumers	eat both herbivores & omnivores