

Animal Life Cycles & Animal Relationships

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
heredity	passing of traits from parents to offspring
instinct	a way of acting that doesn't have to be learned
life cycle	stages of growth and change
life span	how long an organism can usually live
metamorphosis	a series of different body forms
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