Vocabulary: Biology Unit: 12: Ecology Part II Date: 4th 6 weeks

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| **Picture** | **Word** | **Definition** |
|  | Autotroph | An organism that can make its own food from inorganic materials.  --“self feeders”  --photosynthesis, chemosynthesis  --plants, cyanobacteria, algae |
|  | Heterotroph | An organism that is unable to make its own food, it must consume food for energy.  --“different feeders”  --animals, fungi, some protists |
|  | Herbivore | An animal that only eats vegetation (plants)  ---Primary consumers  --Cows, rabbits, deer. |
|  | Carnivore | An animal that only eats other animals (meat).  --Secondary/tertiary consumers.  --Tigers, lions, wolves, sharks |
|  | Omnivore | An animal that eats both plant matter and other animals.  ---Secondary/tertiary consumers  ---Bears, humans, rats. |
|  | Saprobe | An organism that obtains its nutrients from non-living organic matter, usually dead and decaying plant and animal matter.  --Decomposers  --Fungi, bacteria. |
|  | Detritivore | An organism that eats dead organisms.  --Vultures, crabs, sharks |
|  | Trophic level | A feeding level within an ecosystem.  --Producers, primary consumers, secondary consumers, tertiary consumers. |
|  | Food Chain | A model used to show a simple feeding relationship within an ecosystem.  --Arrows are used to show the flow of energy from producer to consumers.  --Producers are beginning of chain |

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| **Picture** | **Word** | **Definition** |
|  | Food Web | A model used to show all of the feeding relationships and their connections within an ecosystem.  --More stable than food chain.  --Many organism eat and are eaten by more than one other organism. |
|  | Producer | An organism that produces its own food (create its own energy).  --The “starter” of a food chain/web.  --Autotrophs  --Plants, algae, photosynthetic bacteria |
|  | Consumer | An organism that consumes other organisms.  --Can consume producers and/or other consumers.  --Heterotrophs  --Animals, fungi, some protists |
|  | Decomposer | An organism that breaks down organic matter (dead organisms) into inorganic molecules.  --The recyclers of nature. They return molecules to the soil so that they may be used by others.  --Bacteria, fungi |
|  | Pyramid of energy | A model that is used to show the relative amounts of energy at each trophic level.  --The producers make up the base and are able to use 100% of energy source.  --Only 10% of energy is passed on to next level. 90% is used and lost as heat. |
|  | Pyramid of numbers | A model that is used to show the relative numbers of organisms found in each trophic level.  ---If organisms are very small, numbers are large. If organisms are very large, numbers are small. |
|  | Pyramid of biomass | A model that is used to show the relative amounts (mass) of living tissue within a trophic level.  ---The amounts at one level will support a certain amount of organic matter at a higher level. |
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