

Energy flow, food chains and food webs

What is the principal source of energy input to biological systems?

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Describe the flow of energy through living organisms.

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Is energy cycled or does it flow through an ecosystem?

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What does a food chain show?

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What is a food web?

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How can overharvesting a food species affect a food web?

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How can a foreign species introduced to a habitat affect a food web?

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Define a producer.

Light energy from the Sun becomes chemical energy in producers, passes along food chains, and is eventually transferred to the environment as heat.

The Sun.

The transfer of energy from one organism to the next, beginning with a producer.

It flows in one direction through organisms and is transferred to the environment. It is not recycled.

Its population falls, so its predators have less food and its prey may increase.

A network of interconnected food chains.

An organism that makes its own organic nutrients, usually using energy from sunlight, through photosynthesis.

It may eat or compete with native species, so their populations fall.

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Define a consumer.

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Name the four classes of consumer in order.

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Define a herbivore.

Energy flow, food chains and food webs

Define a carnivore.

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Define a decomposer.

Primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary consumers.

An organism that gets its energy by feeding on other organisms.

An animal that gets its energy by eating other animals.

An animal that gets its energy by eating plants.

An organism that gets its energy from dead or waste organic material.