



PRODUCERS, CONSUMERS AND DECOMPOSERS

OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will learn the concepts of producers, consumers, decomposers and food web.
2. Students will show that they understand the concepts by completing the following worksheet.

MATERIALS:

1. Producers, Consumers and Decomposers student worksheet
2. Diagram of marine food web
3. Producers, Consumers and Decomposers teacher answer sheet
4. Pencils

PROCEDURE:

1. Introduce or review the concepts and vocabulary for food chains and food webs.
2. Pass out the sheets for students to complete.
3. Discuss the answers.

Connections to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks in Science and Technology/Engineering (May 2001)

Grades 3 - 5

Strand	Learning Standard
Life Science	11. Describe how energy derived from the sun is used by plants to produce sugars (photosynthesis) and is transferred within a food chain from producers (plants) to consumers to decomposers.
Physical Science	Give examples of how energy can be transferred from one form to another.



PRODUCERS, CONSUMERS AND DECOMPOSERS

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. In each of the following lists, one organism does not belong because it eats different types of food than the other organisms in the list. Cross off the organisms that does not belong and then label the list as producers, herbivores, carnivores, omnivores, or decomposers.

List A: Carnivore

Green crab
Minnow
Sea bass
Algae
Herring gull

List B: Producer

phytoplankton
seaweed
marsh grass
ribbed mussel
eel grass

List C: Herbivore

Zooplankton
Canada goose
Periwinkle
Grass shrimp
Phytoplankton

List D: Decomposer

beach fleas
phytoplankton
bacteria

2. A producer is

3. A consumer

4. A decomposer is.



5. Using some of the organisms from questions 1, create a food web on the back of this paper.



PRODUCERS, CONSUMERS AND DECOMPOSERS

Teacher Answer Sheet

1. In each of the following lists, one organism does not belong because it eats different types of food than the other organisms in the list. Cross off the organisms that does not belong and then label the list as producers, herbivores, carnivores, omnivores, or decomposers.

List A: **Carnivore**

Green crab
Minnow
Sea bass
~~Algae~~
Herring gull

List B: **Producer**

phytoplankton
seaweed
marsh grass
~~ribbed mussel~~
eel grass

List C: **Herbivore**

Zooplankton
Canada goose
Periwinkle
Grass shrimp
~~Phytoplankton~~

List D: **Decomposer**

beach fleas
~~phytoplankton~~
bacteria

2. A producer is an organism which produces its own food through photosynthesis.
3. A consumer is an organism which does not make its own food but must get its energy from eating a plant or animal.
4. A decomposer is an organism which digests or breaks down dead plants and animals.
5. Using some of the organisms from questions 1, create a food web on the back of this paper.

