

Interdependence of organisms

Producer:	Makes its own food via photosynthesis
Primary consumer	Feeds mainly on plants
Secondary consumer	Feeds mainly on other animals
Scavenger	Feeds on dead animals
Decomposer	Feeds on dead and decay matters

Food chain

Producer -> Primary consumer ->
Secondary consumer -> Tertiary consumer

From one tropic level to the next tropic level, 90% of the energy is lost as heat to the surroundings

Only 10% of the energy from one tropic level is transferred to the next tropic level

Food chain

A typical food chain shows the sequence of organisms through which energy from the sun is transferred

A typical food chain usually has no more than five trophic levels

Energy in food is not sufficient to support the growth of living organisms after five trophic levels

recall: only 10% of the energy is transferred from one trophic level to the next trophic level

Pyramid of numbers represents the number of living organism in each trophic level

processes that cause energy in food to be lost e.g. Respiration, undigested food passing out of body as waste

Food chain (cont)

Energy conversion from light energy from the sun to chemical energy in food at each trophic level

Definition:

Herbivores animals that eat plants

Carnivores animals that eat meat

Omnivores animals that eat both plants and meat

