bacteria

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byproduct

Something produced when something else is made or consumed.

Microscopic, one-celled organisms.

carnivore

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consumer

An organism that gets energy and matter by eating other organisms; to use goods produced by natural or human social systems; or, one who uses energy resources.

An organism that gets its energy by eating other animals.

decomposers

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consumption

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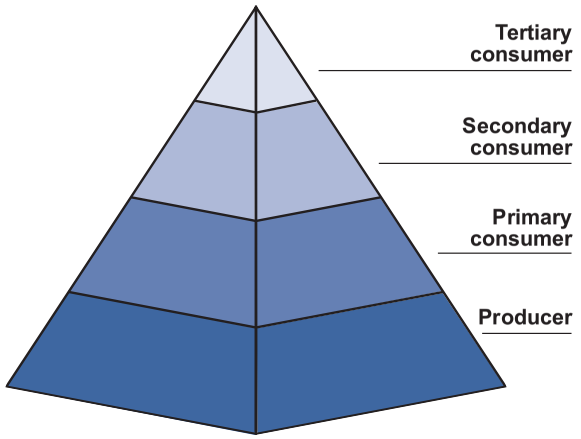
Getting and using energy and matter from a natural system, such as by eating other organisms; the process of using goods produced by natural or human social systems; or, in the context of energy resources, the use and conversion of an energy source from one form to another.

Bacteria and fungi that get energy from the matter in dead organisms and waste.



energy pyramid

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ecosystem

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A representation of the amount of energy available at different levels of a food chain.

A community of plants, animals, and their surroundings that depend on each other.

food web

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fungus

An organism, such as a mushroom, that gets energy and matter primarily from dead organisms.

A group of connected food chains in an ecosystem.

habitat

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herbivores

The place where an organism lives and meets its needs.

Organisms that get energy from the matter in plants and other producers.

human practices

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natural systems

The parts, processes, and cycles in an environment, and the interactions among plants, animals, and other organisms with their environment.

The ways that individual people, communities, and societies do things, such as the harvesting or extracting of materials and the production of goods.

omnivore

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organism

A living thing, such as a plant, animal, or other life form, that can grow and reproduce.

An organism that gets energy and matter by eating both plants and animals.

primary consumer

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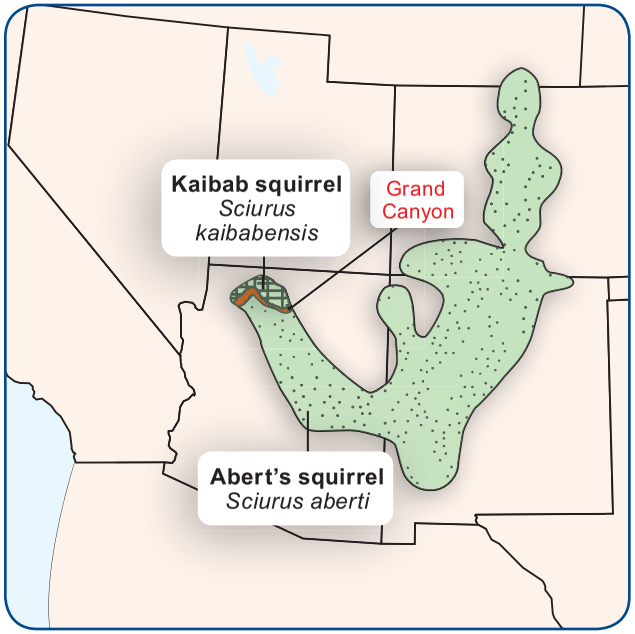
population

In a food chain, the first consumer;
an herbivore.

The number of individuals of a species
living in a place at a given time.



range

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producer

An organism (plant or alga) that converts light energy to chemical energy stored in carbohydrates.

The entire region in which an organism or ecosystem is naturally found.

secondary consumer

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scavenger

The second consumer in a food chain; an organism that feeds on a primary consumer or herbivore.

An animal that gets its energy and matter by eating dead organisms.

tertiary consumer

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trophic level

The position in an energy pyramid that indicates which organisms obtain energy and matter in the same way, for example as primary consumers.

The third consumer in a food chain; an organism that feeds on a secondary consumer.