

Unit 1 Handout 30

Lesson : Who Eats Whom?

Purpose: To learn about how different organisms obtain their energy.

Instructions: Read pages 76-79 in your book. After reading, fill in information about keywords and ideas below.

Keywords and Vocabulary

	Definition	Examples
Autotroph (p 76)	<p>AKA "Producer"</p> <p>Self feeder. It creates its own food within it cells; most often through photosynthesis in the chloroplasts.</p>	<p>Plants</p> <p>Algae</p> <p>Bacteria</p>
Heterotroph (p 77)	<p>AKA "Consumers" or "Decomposers"</p> <p>Other feeder. Must find food and consume it. Some organisms eat the food, decomposers feed on dead organisms.</p>	<p>Animals</p> <p>Fungi (decomp)</p> <p>Most bacteria</p> <p>Millipedes (decomp)</p>

Reflecting Questions

Write 1-2 sentences that answers or responds to each question. Detail is key!

1. What do autotrophs do to make their food?
Autotrophs use photosynthesis, a process which uses sunlight, carbon dioxide, and water to create food (sugar or glucose) for the cell.
2. What is the source of energy that is found in all foods?
The source of energy for almost all foods is sunlight (light or solar energy).
3. What is the niche of a decomposer?
The niche (job) of a decomposer is to break down dead and decaying organisms so their molecules are returned to the ecosystem.
4. Why does the reading say that autotrophs could survive without heterotrophs, but heterotrophs could not survive without autotrophs?
All heterotrophs ultimately rely on autotrophs for a food source. Either they eat autotrophs directly or they eat other heterotrophs that eat the autotrophs. Without autotrophs, heterotrophs would have no food source.