THE LIVING WORLD
Ecosystems

read

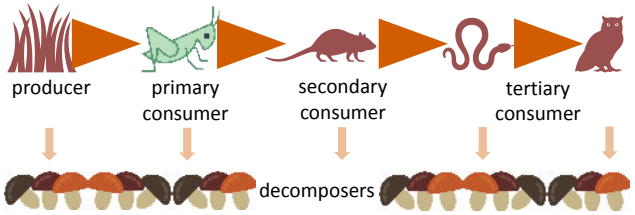
quiz

The Big Picture

The Living World

- *ecosystems*
- *rainforests*
- *cold environments* ------ or ------- *hot deserts*

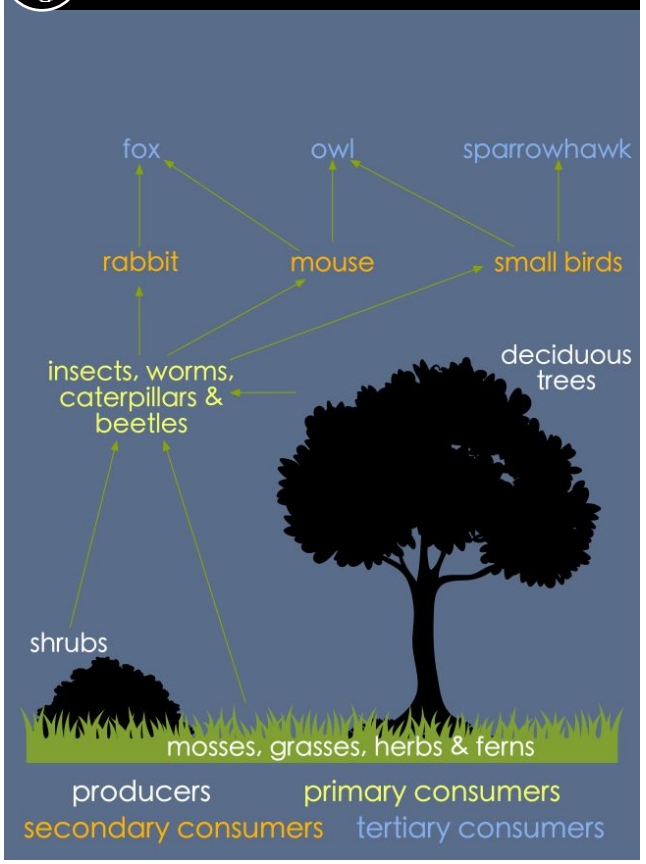
Food Chain



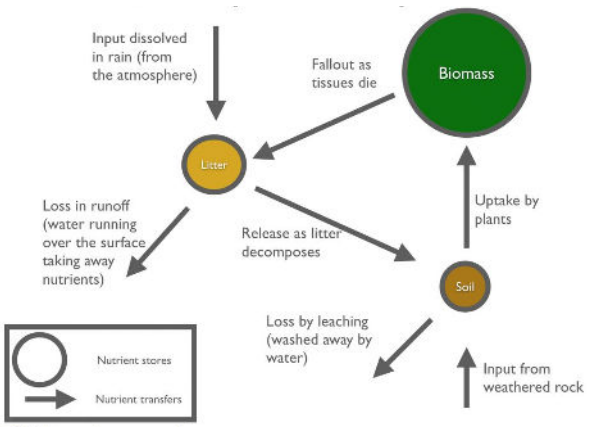
Key Terms

- ***Abiotic*** – The non-living elements of an ecosystem e.g. climate, soil and water.
- **Biotic** – Organisms found in an ecosystem e.g. plants, insects & animals.
- **Ecosystem** – a community of plants and animals sharing an environment with non-living things.
- **Producer** – A type of organism produce their own food usually by photosynthesis.
- **Consumer** – Organisms that consume other organisms to obtain their energy.
- **Decomposer** – Organisms that break down dead plants and animals.
- **Food chain** – The flow of energy from producer to tertiary consumer.
- **Food web** – A diagram showing lots of food chains and how they overlap.
- **Nutrient cycle** – The transfer of nutrients through an ecosystem.

Food Web



The Nutrient Cycle



Ecosystem Change

Natural
- climate change
- invasive species
- extreme weather
- fire

Human
- hunting
- alien species
- land use change
- altering water & soil