Energy Flow Vocabulary

1. Organism – is a living thing such as plants, animals, trees, bacteria
2. Environment – all the living and non-living things that surround and affect a given organism
3. Ecosystem (BIOME)– all the living and non-living things that INTERACT in an environment and how they affect each other
4. Community – all the LIVING things in an ecosystem
5. Population – is all on of ONE kind of organism
6. Producers – produce their own food (plants)
7. Consumers – they consume (or eat) plants or other animals
8. Decomposers – they feed on wastes of plants and animals or their remains after they die, replenish soil with nutrients (also called detritivores)
9. Food chain - single path as animals eat each other. Shows the flow of energy
10. Food web – a diagram that combines many food chains, shows how many animals are interconnected by different paths
11. Omnivore - eats both plant and animals
12. Carnivore – eats flesh (animals)
13. Herbivore - feeding on grass and other plants
14. Biomass - total mass of all living matter in a given area
15. Respiration – cells use food (like glucose) to release its energy to use for all life processes.
16. Predator – an organism that feeds on other organisms
17. Prey – animal that is hunted or seized for food
18. Decay – to decompose or break down
19. Compost bin –a container holding various decaying organic substances
20. Compost – mixture of decaying substances full of nutrients, can be used as fertilizer
21. Energy pyramid – a model that shows the amount of energy available at each step of the food chain
22. Trophic level – each level in a food chain or (energy pyramid). 10 % rule – is passed from one level to the next level
23. Heterotroph –organism that gets its energy from the food it eats (another word for consumer)
24. Autotroph – organism that can make own food by using energy from the sun (producer) PLANTS
25. Water cycle – recycling of water through evaporation, condensation and precipitation. ENERGY from the SUN is the MOST essential part of this cycle