

## CLASSIFYING ORGANISMS

Organisms are classified according to how they get food for energy.

Below is a description of seven different organisms and how they get food for energy.

- **CARNIVORE** is an organism that feeds on other animals.
- **HERBIVORE** is an organism that feeds on plant.
- **OMNIVORE** is an organism that feeds on both plants and animals.
- **PRODUCER** produces its own food.
- **SAPROPHYTE** eats the dead or decaying matter of other organisms.
- **PARASITE** is an organism that gets its nourishment by attaching itself to another organism, which is called a host.
- **DECOMPOSER** is an organism that usually lives in soil. It gets its nutrients by breaking down the wastes and remains of other organisms.

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| <p>1. For breakfast, Bill eats oatmeal with milk. He has a hamburger with lettuce and tomato for lunch. For supper he has chicken, spinach, rice, and apple pie. Bill is _____.<br/>① a carnivore<br/>② an herbivore<br/>③ an omnivore<br/>④ a producer<br/>⑤ a saprophyte</p> <p>2. Mushrooms get their nutrients from animal droppings, and decaying material, such as rotting leaves and sticks. A mushroom is _____.<br/>① a carnivore<br/>② an herbivore<br/>③ an omnivore<br/>④ a producer<br/>⑤ a saprophyte</p> <p>3. During photosynthesis, a cottonwood tree converts carbon dioxide and water into carbohydrates. A tree uses carbohydrates as food for growth. A cottonwood tree is _____.<br/>① a carnivore<br/>② an herbivore<br/>③ an omnivore<br/>④ a producer<br/>⑤ a saprophyte</p> | <p>4. A horse eats hay and grain. Sometimes Bonita treats her horse, Lady, to apples, carrots, or sugar cubes. A horse is _____.<br/>① a carnivore<br/>② an herbivore<br/>③ an omnivore<br/>④ a producer<br/>⑤ a saprophyte</p> <p>5. A bobcat eats deer, rabbits, antelope, and other plant eaters. A bobcat is _____.<br/>① a carnivore<br/>② an herbivore<br/>③ an omnivore<br/>④ a producer<br/>⑤ a saprophyte</p> <p>6. Spiders build sticky webs to trap insects. An insect dies as it struggles to free itself from the web. The spider then eats the insect. A spider is _____.<br/>① a carnivore<br/>② an herbivore<br/>③ an omnivore<br/>④ a producer<br/>⑤ a saprophyte</p> |
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7. Sea cows eat mangrove leaves, turtle grass, and algae.

A sea cow is \_\_\_\_\_.

- ① an herbivore
- ② a carnivore
- ③ an omnivore
- ④ a parasite
- ⑤ a decomposer

8. For lunch, Tomás ate a bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwich and French fries.

Tomás is \_\_\_\_\_.

- ① an herbivore
- ② a carnivore
- ③ an omnivore
- ④ a parasite
- ⑤ a decomposer

9. A flea attaches itself to a cat's skin and feeds on the cat's blood.

A flea is \_\_\_\_\_.

- ① an herbivore
- ② a carnivore
- ③ an omnivore
- ④ a parasite
- ⑤ a decomposer

10. The black bear of Rocky Mountain National Park feeds on various food items. The black bear eats trout, berries, and other small animals.

The black bear is \_\_\_\_\_.

- ① an herbivore
- ② a carnivore
- ③ an omnivore
- ④ a parasite
- ⑤ a decomposer

11. The Bald Eagle of Lake Meredith lives exclusively on fish and other small animals.

The Bald Eagle is \_\_\_\_\_.

- ① an herbivore
- ② a carnivore
- ③ an omnivore
- ④ a parasite
- ⑤ a decomposer

12. Wild boars eat bugs, lizards, frogs, and plants.

A wild boar is \_\_\_\_\_.

- ① an herbivore
- ② a carnivore
- ③ an omnivore
- ④ a parasite
- ⑤ a decomposer