



Biology B
Unit 13 Glossary

| Term | Definition |
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| autotroph | an organism that produces its own food molecules by using energy from the sun or other inorganic sources. An example of an autotroph is an oak tree. (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| biomass pyramid | a pyramid that shows the relative amount of organic matter available at each trophic level. Biomass is a measure in gram of organic matter per unit area (Unit 13, Lesson 2) |
| carnivore | a consumer that eats other consumers. (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| chemosynthesis | the production of carbohydrates using energy from inorganic molecules instead of from light energy. (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| commensalism | a symbiotic relationship in which one organism benefits and the other is unaffected. (Unit 13, Lesson 3) |
| competition | an interaction between organisms or species where one must fight another for limited resource such as water, food, shelter and mating partners (Unit 13, Lesson 3) |
| consumers | organisms that obtain energy by consuming organic molecules (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| decomposer | organisms that break down dead organic matter, recycling the molecules back into the ecosystem. (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| detritivore | an organisms that eats detritus or organic material which was broken down by decomposers (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| ecological pyramid | it models relative amount of energy or matter at each trophic level in an ecosystem (Unit 13, Lesson 2) |
| energy pyramid | a model that shows the relative amount of energy at each trophic level of a food chain or food web. (Unit 13, Lesson 2) |
| food chains | shows how organisms transfer energy and matter by consumption from one trophic level to the next in a linear fashion (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| food web | shows the interdependent network of feeding interactions in an ecosystem (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| herbivore | a consumer that eats producers. (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| heterotrophs | an organism that obtains food by eating other living things or their products. An example of a heterotroph is a cow. (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| microorganisms | microscopic organisms such as bacteria, fungi and viruses (Unit 13, Lesson 4) |
| mutualism | a relationship between two species where both species benefit (Unit 13, Lesson 3) |
| numbers pyramid | a model that shows relative number of organisms at each trophic level. (Unit 13, Lesson 2) |
| omnivore | a consumer that eats both producers and consumers. (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| parasitism | a relationship between two species where one species benefit while the other species serves as host and is harmed (Unit 13, Lesson 3) |

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| photosynthesis | the process of capturing sunlight to convert carbon dioxide and water into glucose and oxygen (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| predation | where the predator species feed on the prey species (Unit 13, Lesson 3) |
| producers | organisms that make their own food by capturing energy and using it to build organic molecules. (Unit 13, Lesson 1) |
| symbiosis | a close interdependent relationship between two species (Unit 13, Lesson 3) |