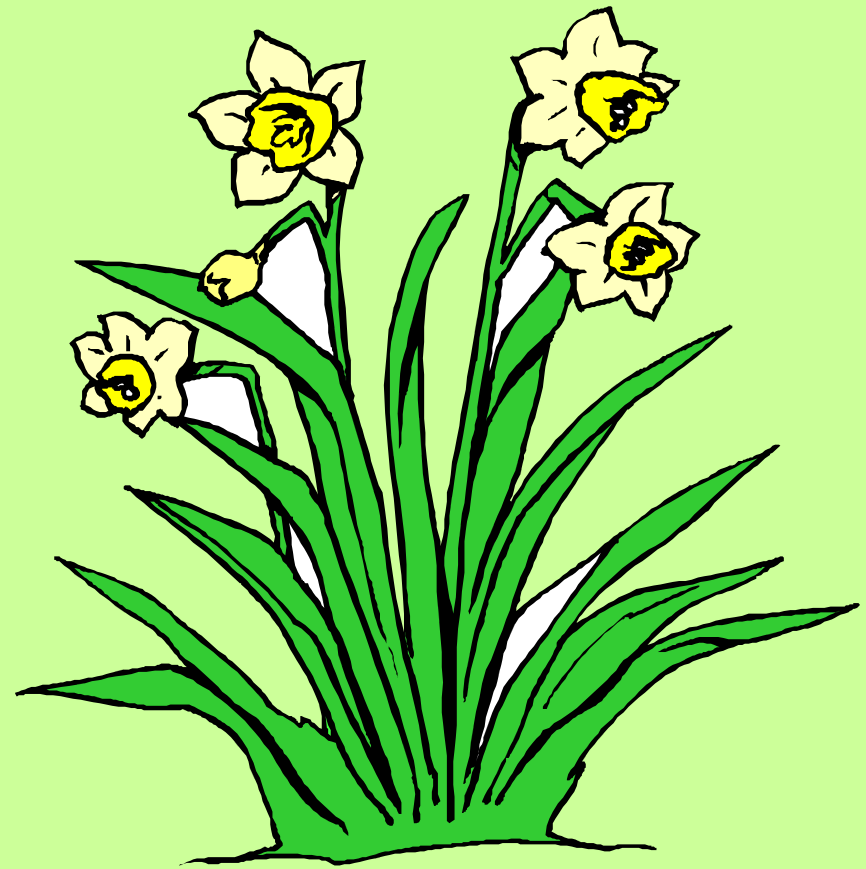


Who's Who in a Food Chain?

Food Chain

Producers

- ALL LIVING THINGS NEED ENERGY FROM FOOD. Green plants are the only living things that can make their own food. They are called producers. A food chain always begins with a producer.



Consumers



- Animals are consumers because they eat plants or other animals to get their energy. The first consumer in a food chain is an herbivore (an animal that eats only plants).

Consumers

- The next consumer is a carnivore (an animal that eats only other animals). A carnivore may be eaten by a larger carnivore.



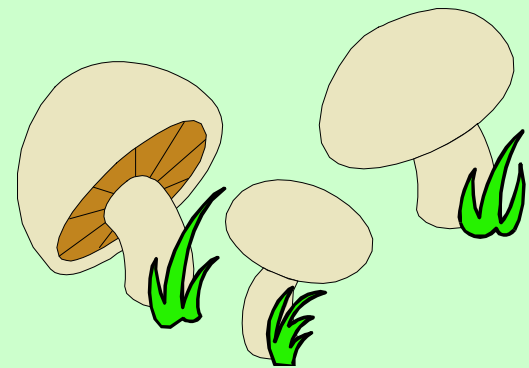
Consumers



- A food chain sometimes includes a consumer that is an omnivore (an animal that eats both plants and animals).

Decomposers

- Decomposers are consumers that break down dead plants and animals. They return materials stored in dead plants and animals to the soil, water, and air. Then green plants use the materials to make food.



Food Chain

