

## LIFE SCIENCE

### ORGANISMS & THEIR ROLES IN AN ECOSYSTEM

- I can explain that populations of organisms can be categorized by how they acquire energy.
- I can explain that all living things require energy.
- I can explain that plants and some microorganisms are producers - the foundation of the food web.
- I can describe how producers transform energy from the sun and make food through a process called photosynthesis.
- I can explain that animals are consumers who get their energy by eating plants and other animals that eat plants.
- I can describe predator-prey relationships.
- I can explain how decomposers (mostly bacteria and fungi) use waste materials and dead organisms for food.
- I can explain how decomposers return nutrients to the ecosystem.
- I can find several different food chains within an entire food web.
- I can describe the three types of symbiotic relationships (mutualism, commensalism, & parasitism).
- I can investigate locally threatened or endangered species.
- I can explain how remediation programs, species loss, and the introduction of new species affect the local environment.

