

### 6. Producers, Consumers, and Decomposers

#### Producers

Plants are called \_\_\_\_\_. This is because they \_\_\_\_\_!

They do this by using light energy from the Sun, carbon dioxide from the air, and water from the soil to produce food - in the form of glucose/sugar.

The process is called \_\_\_\_\_.

I filled in the blanks on this handout as I went along with the interactive presentation on producers, consumers, and decomposers.

#### Consumers

Animals are called \_\_\_\_\_. They cannot make their own food, so they need to \_\_\_\_\_.

There are 3 groups of consumers. (Click on any to learn more!)

\_\_\_\_\_ : Animals that eat only plants.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Animals that eat only animals.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Animals that eat both animals AND plants.

Humans are also \_\_\_\_\_!

#### Decomposers

Bacteria and fungi are \_\_\_\_\_. They eat decaying matter - dead plants and animals and in the process they break them down and decompose them. When that happens, they release nutrients and mineral salts back into the soil - which then will be used by plants!