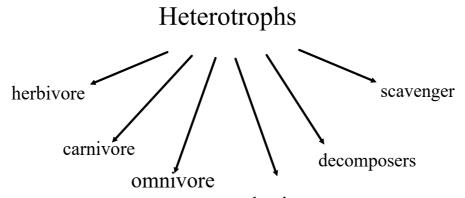
Jan. 8, 2024

Autotrophs vs. Heterotrophs

<u>Autotrophs</u> (producers) capture energy from sunlight or chemicals to produce their own food.

ie) plants

Organisms that rely on other organisms for their energy and food supply are called <u>heterotrophs</u> (consumers). These include animals, fungi and bacteria.



The following are 6 heterotrophs

- 1) Herbivores, such as cows, obtain energy by eats only plants.
- 2) Carnivores, such as snakes and owls, eat only animals.
- 3) Omnivores, such as humans and bears, eat both plants and animals.
- 4) Detritivores, such as earthworms, feed on dead matter.
- 5) Decomposers, such as fungi, break down organic matter.
- 6) Scavengers, such as vultures, eat dead animals.

Autotroph vs Heterotroph Producer vs Consumer (youtube.com)

Food chain is a step-by-step sequence linking organisms that feed on each other

Producers get their nutrients from the soil, water and air.

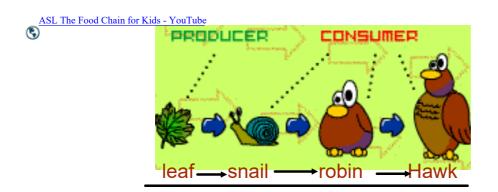
<u>Consumers</u> feed on living or once living organisms as a source of energy and nutrients

Herbivores get nutrients when they eat producers.

Carnivores get nutrients when they eat herbivores.

Decomposers break down animal wastes and dead organisms.

The actions of decomposers release nutrients back into the soil, water and air so producers can use them again.



Arrow direction points to what eats the animal