**Forest Ecosystem Balance**

In a forest, every organism is interconnected. Everything in the forest is important for its survival.

**Forest Team Members**

*Producers*:

Ex)

*Consumers*:

Ex)

*Decomposers*:

Ex)

**Types of Consumers**

*Primary consumer* - the first consumer to eat the producer

Ex)

*Secondary consumer* - a consumer which eats the first consumer

Ex)

*Tertiary consumer* - a consumer which eats the second consumer

Ex)

**Food Chains**

* One way the forest is interconnected is through a food chain or food web.
* A food chain shows the flow of energy through a series of organisms.
* Each organism is food for the next higher organism

Example:

**Food Web**

* A more complex version of a food chain, it is many food chains connected together

**Nutrient Cycle**



1. Nutrients in the soil are absorbed by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Nutrients travel up the trunk to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Leaves fall to the ground or are eaten by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ break down dead plant or animal matter and return the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the soil, where the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_begins again.