

## Section 2.1

# Energy Flow in Ecosystems

## Before You Read



### 1. Words to Know

Directions: Match the correct definition to the term on the left.  
Scan pages 56 – 64 to find the definitions.

Words to Know	Definition
___ biodegradation	A. a model that shows the flow of energy from plant to animal and from animal to animal
___ consumers	B. the actions of living organisms, such as bacteria, to break down dead organic matter
___ decomposers	C. models of the feeding relationships within an ecosystem; these represent several interconnected food chains
___ food chain	D. a model that shows the loss of energy from one trophic level to another
___ food pyramid	E. organisms which obtain their energy and nutrients by converting the Sun's energy via photosynthesis
___ food web	F. the stages in a food chain that show the feeding and niche relationships among organisms
___ producers	G. organisms which obtain their energy and nutrients by eating other organisms
___ trophic level	H. organisms such as bacteria and fungi, which change wastes and dead organisms into usable nutrients

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## 2. Predicting the Main Ideas of Section 2.1

Directions: Scan pages 56 – 64 looking at the pictures and titles within this section. Predict three things you think you will learn in this section.

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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. \_\_\_\_\_  
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