

Section 2.4 Energy Flow Through Ecosystems

Use your textbook's glossary to define the following key word.

Ecological Pyramid	
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Read pages 40-43 to fill in the blanks and answer the questions.

1. Hydrothermal vents: What are the producers in this ecosystem? _____ that make food from _____ in a process called _____. The detritivores in this ecosystem are _____. The chemosynthesis bacteria live inside adult _____ which have no mouths or stomachs.

On the back of this page, draw the food web for this unique ecosystem.

2. The _____ is life's main energy supply. Most of the energy a plant makes goes to _____ and producing flowers and _____. Only 10% gets stored and passed on to the animal that eats it. Similarly, an animal uses most of the energy to support its everyday _____. Also, energy is given off as _____. Only about _____ gets passed to the next _____.

3. On the back of this page, draw an ecological pyramid with 4 levels and label the levels (producer, herbivore, carnivore, carnivore). Give an example of each level as well.

4. In each higher level in the ecological pyramid, the amount of energy is _____ than the amount of energy in the level _____. Usually the _____ of organisms also _____ at each higher level of the pyramid.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Explain why there are usually fewer large carnivores than herbivores or producers in an ecosystem.

1.

3.