5th Grade Life Science

**Food Webs Vocabulary**

1. Environment – the space and all the living and nonliving things around an organism
2. Ecosystem – all of the living and nonliving things in an area and the interactions among them (terrestrial ecosystems: land; aquatic ecosystems: water)
3. Estuary – a biome where salt water from oceans mixes with freshwater from rivers along the coast
4. Decomposer – an organism that consumes dead or decayed nonliving biomass without need for internal digestion (fungi: mushroom, mold)
5. Producer – an organism that makes its own food
6. Consumer – an organism that gets energy from eating another organism
7. Herbivore – consumers that eat only plants
8. Carnivores – consumers that eat only animals
9. Omnivore – consumers that eat both plants and animals
10. Food Chain – a path of energy transfer from one organism to another
11. Food Web – an interconnected set of food chains
12. Thrive – to grow well or strong
13. Invasive Species – a non-native plant or animal that has been introduced into an environment and negatively impacts the environment’s ecosystem

**Other important words you need to know:**

* + Biotic – living parts of an ecosystem
  + Abiotic – nonliving parts of an ecosystem
  + Primary Consumer – herbivores that eat plants
  + Secondary Consumer – carnivores that eat herbivores
  + Tertiary Consumer – carnivores that eat carnivores

