

SECTION
1-2

Food and Energy in the Environment

(pages 18-23)

KEY CONCEPTS

- ▲ Producers are the source of all the food in an ecosystem.
- ▲ An organism that feeds directly or indirectly on producers is called a consumer.
- ▲ Decomposers break down dead organisms into simpler substances.

Building Vocabulary Skills: Putting Vocabulary to Work

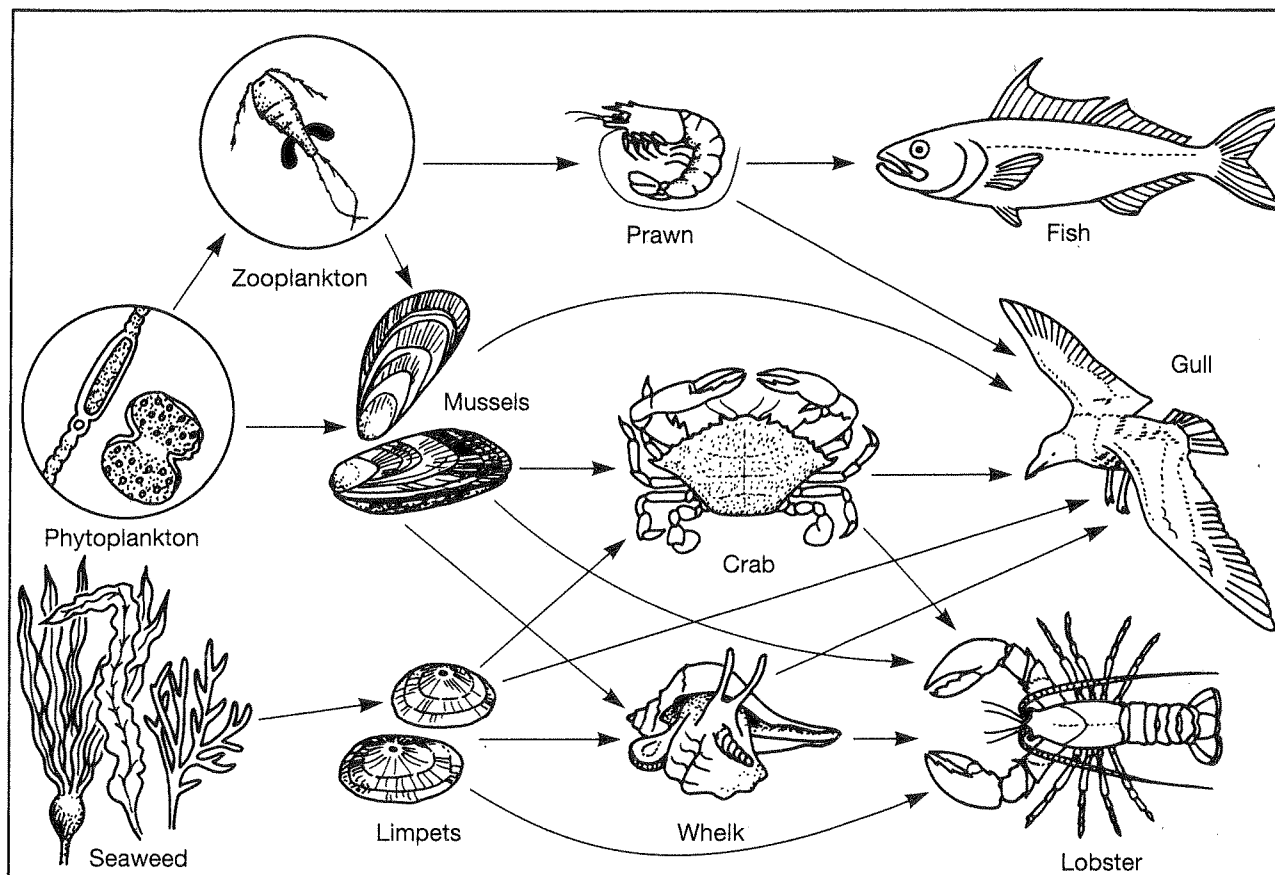
After carefully reading the information in Section 1-2, identify each of the organisms as a **producer**, **consumer**, or **decomposer**. Briefly explain why you labeled each as you did.



1. Rabbit _____

2. Tree _____

3. Fungi _____



Study the food web illustrated above. Explain in your own words how food chains are related to food webs.

■ What Would Happen If?: Understanding the Main Ideas

1. What do you think would happen if all of the decomposers in the world became extinct?

2. What do you think would happen if there were no green plants?

3. Look back at the food web of Antarctic organisms on page 22 in your textbook. In your own words, explain what the arrows going in different directions mean.
