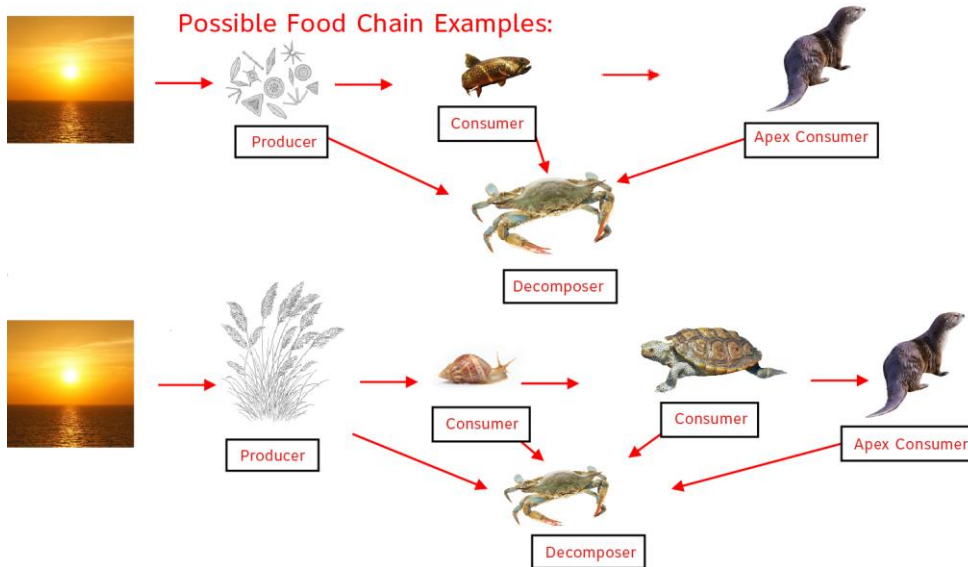
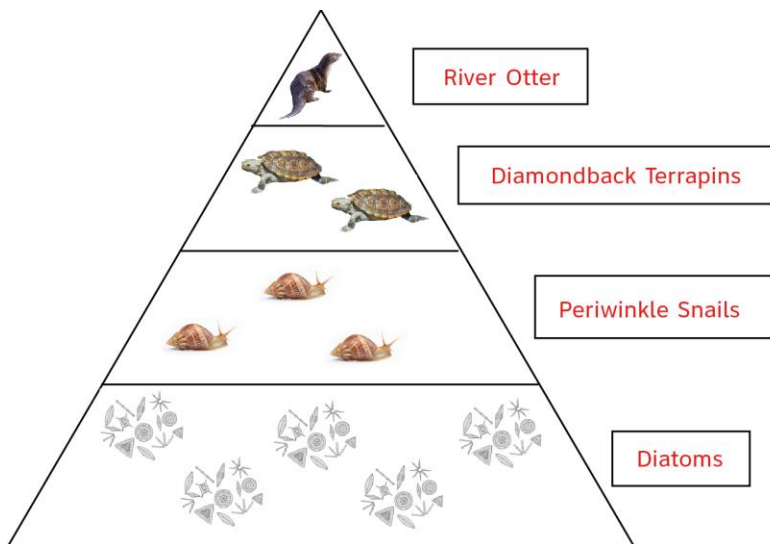


Food Chain Assessment Worksheet Answer Key

Cut out the organisms you need from the following page to create 2 salt marsh food chains. Label each organism as a producer, consumer, apex consumer, or decomposer.



Use the following organisms to fill in the food chain pyramid levels (periwinkle snails, river otters, diatoms, diamondback terrapins, fiddler crabs and blue crabs) then answer the question.



Why do you think scientists draw illustrations showing how energy flows through a food chain in the shape of a pyramid (triangle)?

The triangular shape represents two things:

1. As you move up the food chain, more of the original energy from the sun is lost
2. As you move up the food chain, there are fewer organisms at each feeding level (trophic level).