



Energy in Ecosystems

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: Grade 5

Part A: Fill in the Blank

Write the missing word or number on each line.

1. Organisms that break down dead plants and animals are called _____ .
2. Mushrooms and molds are examples of decomposers called _____ .
3. Tiny one-celled decomposers found in soil are _____ .
4. Decomposers return important _____ to the soil for plants to use.
5. Without decomposers, dead plants and animals would simply _____ up.
6. Decomposers are an important part of every _____ .
7. The breakdown of dead matter into nutrients is called _____ .
8. Earthworms help decomposition by breaking dead leaves into smaller _____ .
9. Decomposers are sometimes called nature's _____ .

Part B: Matching

Match each item on the left to the correct answer on the right.

1. Match each item to its correct answer.

Decomposer	→ _____	Organism that breaks down dead matter
Fungi	→ _____	Mushrooms and molds that recycle nutrients
Bacteria	→ _____	Tiny one-celled organisms in the soil
Decomposition	→ _____	The process of breaking down dead matter

Part A: Fill in the Blank

Write the missing word or number on each line.

1. Organisms that break down dead plants and animals are called decomposers .
2. Mushrooms and molds are examples of decomposers called fungi .
3. Tiny one-celled decomposers found in soil are bacteria .
4. Decomposers return important nutrients to the soil for plants to use.
5. Without decomposers, dead plants and animals would simply pile up.
6. Decomposers are an important part of every ecosystem .
7. The breakdown of dead matter into nutrients is called decomposition .
8. Earthworms help decomposition by breaking dead leaves into smaller pieces .
9. Decomposers are sometimes called nature's recyclers .

Part B: Matching

Match each item on the left to the correct answer on the right.

1. Match each item to its correct answer.

Decomposer	→	<u>Organism that breaks down dead matter</u>	Organism that breaks down dead matter
Fungi	→	<u>Mushrooms and molds that recycle nutrients</u>	Mushrooms and molds that recycle nutrients
Bacteria	→	<u>Tiny one-celled organisms in the soil</u>	Tiny one-celled organisms in the soil
Decomposition	→	<u>The process of breaking down dead matter</u>	The process of breaking down dead matter