







These coloring & activity pages are designed to help you learn about & explore nature on a trail or in your own backyard!



These pages & original illustrations were designed by Kenyon Grant, Maine Master Naturalist, spring 2020.

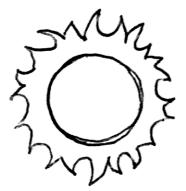












6

Every living thing needs energy. All of our energy on Earth starts with **THE SUN**.

Plants can take the light that the sun provides and turn it into energy through **PHOTOSYNTHESIS**.

They are called **PRODUCERS**, because they can make their own energy with the help of the sun.



Some animals get their energy from the plants they eat. They are called **CONSUMERS**, because they need to get their energy from another living organism.

WHAT IS A SCIENTIFIC NAME?

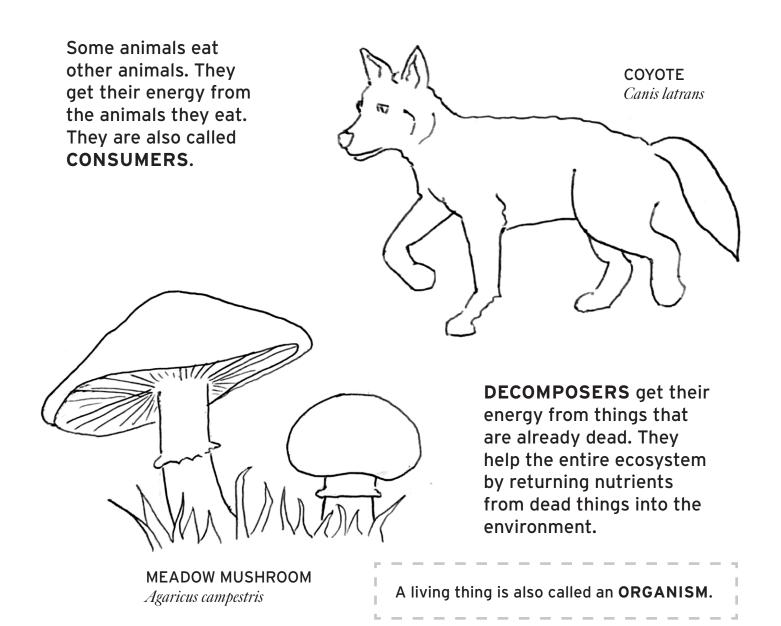
Many animals have more than one "common name", especially if they live in many different places.

Having a scientific name makes it easier for scientists to know they are talking about the same species.

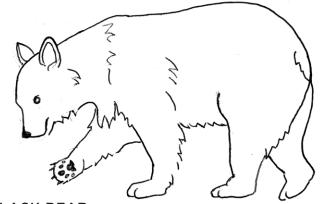
For example: the puma, the mountain lion, and the cougar are all names for the same animal! Its scientific name is *Puma concolor*.

1

SNOWSHOE HARE *Lepus americanus*



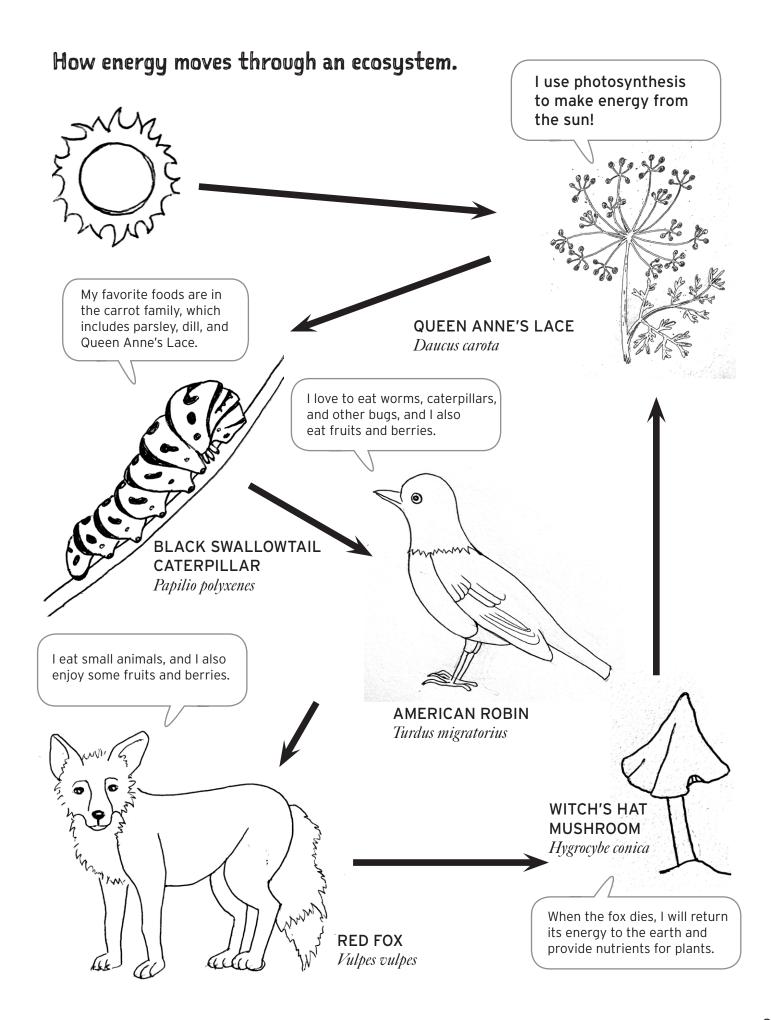
Do you know which of these is a consumer and which is a producer?



BLACK BEAR Ursus americanus



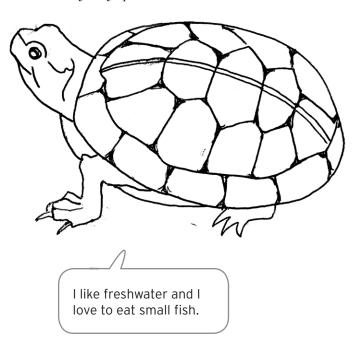
NORTHERN RED OAK Quercus rubra



Match each organism with the place where it would most like to live,

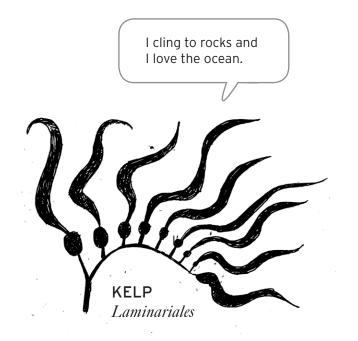


PAINTED TURTLE Chrysemys picta



A POND NEAR THE WOODS

AN OPEN MEADOW WITH LOTS OF SUN





and then match it to another member of its natural community.

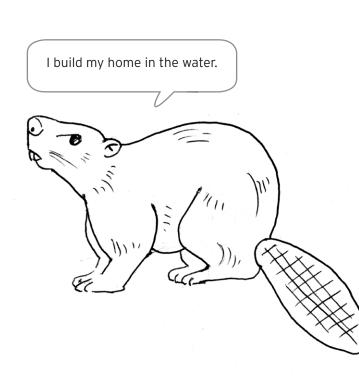


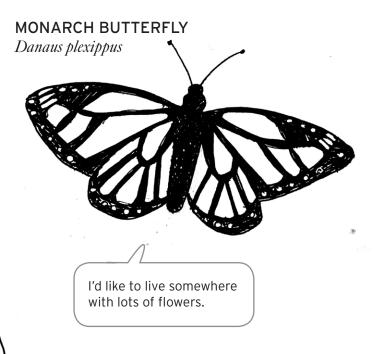
Littorina littorea



AN FOREST WITH BIG TREES

A ROCKY TIDE POOL





The best way to start to understand the natural community is to make a list of what you observe. Use these questions as a starting point.

Do you see any water? Is it saltwater or freshwater?

Do you see any trees? Do they have leaves or needles?

Do you see any flowers? Any ferns?

Do you see any other plants?

Do you see any birds? Do you hear any birds?

Do you see any other animals? (Don't forget about insects!)

What else do you see? What have you learned?

SPOTTED SALAMANDER *Ambystoma maculatum*

ects!)