

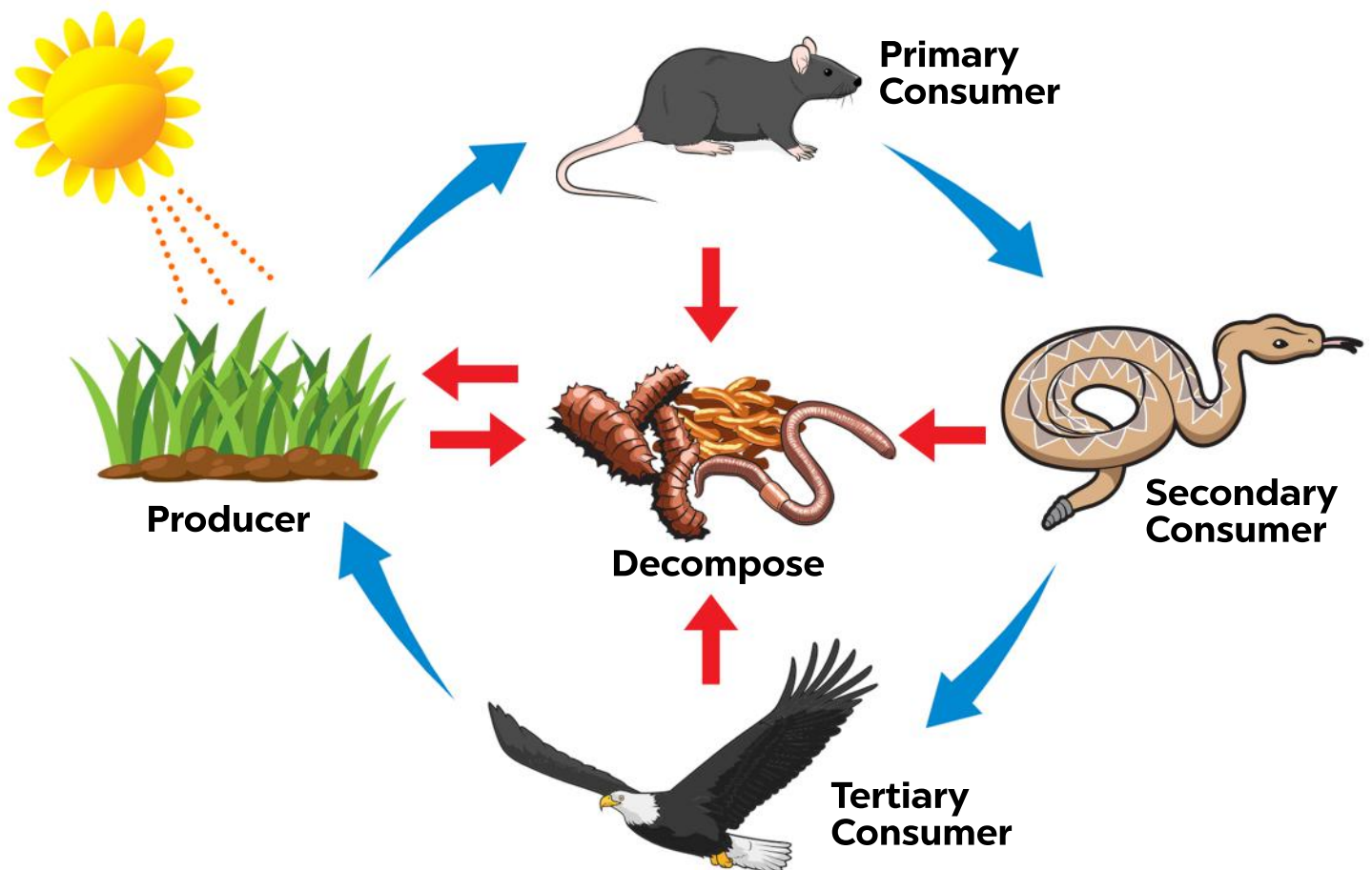
Everything About The Food Chain

Read the text below to know more about the food chain and how it works.

The FOOD CHAIN starts with producers.

PRODUCERS are organisms that prepare or produce their own food. For example, **PLANTS** are producers as they use sunlight, water, and nutrients from the soil to prepare food by a process called PHOTOSYNTHESIS.

Food Chain



Next comes the **CONSUMERS**. In most food chains, there are three types of consumers.

1. **PRIMARY CONSUMERS or HERBIVORES** are organisms that consume plant and plant products (such as fruits and vegetables) only. Examples of herbivores include **deer, grasshopper, rabbit, and giraffe.**
2. **SECONDARY CONSUMERS or CARNIVORES** are organisms that feed on other animals only. Examples of carnivores include **sharks, owls, wild cats, and snakes.**
3. **TERTIARY CONSUMERS or OMNIVORES** are organisms that feed on both plants as well as animals. Examples of omnivores include **human beings, raccoons, hawks.**

And then, comes the **DECOMPOSERS**, which play a crucial role in the food chain. When the producers (plants) and consumers (animals) die, the decomposers, for example, **the bacteria, fungi, and similar organisms (beetles, vultures)** feed on the dead organisms and convert them into nutrients. The nutrients are again used by the producers to prepare their food, and thus the food chain continues.

Label the diagram using the correct direction of the arrows.

