**Lesson 4 (cont.): Energy Flow in Ecosystems**

**Energy**

* Energy is needed for all life processes, such as breathing, moving, growing, etc.
* The ultimate source of energy for almost every living thing is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**The Movement of Energy**

* Living things do not create energy.
* Energy is just passed from one \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to another.
* It is released from food through the process of cellular respiration.

**From the Sun to Producers**

* Plants (producers) use the sun’s energy to make \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (photosynthesis).
* They use most (\_\_\_\_\_) of the energy stored in their food to grow, reproduce, etc.
* The food that is not used by the plant (\_\_\_\_\_) is stored in the plant to be used later.

**From Producers to Primary Consumers**

* When primary consumers eat plants, they receive the energy that was stored in the plant.
* They use this energy (\_\_\_\_\_) to move, grow and for all of the other processes necessary to stay alive.
* The energy that is not used up (\_\_\_\_\_) is stored in their bodies.

**From Primary Consumers to Secondary Consumers**

* When secondary consumers eat primary consumers, they receive the energy that was stored in those organisms.
* They use this energy (\_\_\_\_\_) to move and grow and for all of the other processes necessary to stay alive.
* The energy that is not used (\_\_\_\_\_) up is stored in their bodies.
* This energy is eventually passed on to tertiary consumers, when the tertiary consumers eat them.

**Energy Pyramid**

* An energy pyramid is a diagram that shows the amount of energy that flows through an ecosystem.
* The shape of the energy pyramid represents two things:
* the decrease in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ moving from producers to primary consumers to secondary consumers to tertiary consumers
* the decrease in the number of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in an ecosystem as you move up the food chain.