Composting and Vermiculture
Student Worksheet

1. Describe how composting works and why it is important.

2. Use the word bank to match the words to the different phases of the energy cycle.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORD BANK:</th>
<th>Producer</th>
<th>Consumer</th>
<th>Decomposer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>____________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>____________________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Breaks down organic matter</td>
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<td>____________________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Produces own food</td>
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<tr>
<td>____________________</td>
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<td>Eats other things</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3. Give an example of each of the following

Producer
Consumer
Decomposer

4. Below is a list of items. Use “Yes” or “No” to identify if each item should or should not go into a compost pile.

________ Grass clippings       _______ Meat       _______ Chicken
________ Vegetable scraps      _______ Dry leaves  _______ Pasta
________ Egg shells            _______ Candy       _______ Crackers
Vermiculture

1. In the space below describe Vermiculture:

2. Use “Yes” or “No” to identify if each item should or should not go into a compost pile.

   _______Apple core    _______Tea Bag    _______Steak
   _______Coffee grounds _______Sandwich crust _______Lettuce
   _______Pepperoni Pizza _______Orange Peel _______Eggshells
   _______Newspaper _______Banana peel _______Cookies
   _______Chips _______Rice _______Paper
   _______Napkin _______Carrots

3. Imagine the world without decomposers. What would change? How would it affect the energy cycle?