

5th Grade, March 30 - April 17**Resource Used:** HMH Science Dimensions Workbook, Grade 5**Topic:**

How do Energy and Matter Move through Ecosystems?

What Your Student is Learning:

The food of almost any kind of animal can be traced back to plants. Organisms (living things) are related in food webs in which some animals eat plants for food and other animals eat the animals that eat plants. Some organisms, such as fungi (ex. mushrooms) and bacteria, break down dead organisms (both plants and animals) and therefore operate as “decomposers.” Decomposition eventually restores (recycles) some materials back to the soil. Organisms can survive only in environments in which their particular needs are met. A healthy ecosystem is one in which multiple species of different types are each able to meet their needs in a relatively stable web of life. Newly introduced species can damage the balance of an ecosystem.

Background and Context:

Students should read the text, discuss the ideas with you or a classmate by phone, text, or email, and answer the questions in a notebook. [Click here to access the 5th Grade Energy and Matter through Ecosystems Learning Packet.](#)

In 5th grade, students should engage in science about 3 times a week for about 45 minutes each time. Below is a suggestion for how you might want to break up the work.

- **Week of March 30th: Pages 222-231**
- **Week of April 13th: Pages 232-243**

Ways to Support Your Student:

Studying science involves asking questions and being curious! You can help your child by reading along with them and by encouraging them to look closely at the images provided. The charts, pictures, etc. and activities will give them information about the topics reviewed. Additionally, encourage your students to talk or write about their ideas before, during, and after completing the activities. Tell them not to worry about being wrong or not knowing; science is about revising ideas over time based on new information. Students might call or video chat their classmates to discuss these ideas together as well. They should encourage each other to use evidence from the text to support their ideas.

Additional Resource for Parents:

[Tips for Busy Parents](#) who want to support their childrens’ science learning.

Answer keys for the Lesson Check are available [here](#).

Online Resources for Students:

From [Science class-net.](#), try this resource: [Ecosystems](#)

National Geographic has some [great resources](#) around energy flow through an ecosystem.

[The Food Chain Game](#)

[Carnivores, Herbivores, and Omnivores](#). When you're done reading about each type of organism, don't forget to play the games on the left hand side!

Padres, adjunto esta un glosario en español para su referencia.

Para las páginas en español visite el enlace: <https://tinyurl.com/5thEinEcos>