





ECOSYSTEMS, NUTRIENT CYCLES AND HUMAN IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT - WJEC Unit 1.6

2. Pyramids of numbers Complete the pyramid of numbers below to show 40 Topshells as first level consumers. **2 Corkwing Wrasse 8 Shore Crabs** 2 Kelp plants Why is this not a good way of showing the energy at different trophic levels in the food chain?

What would be a better way of representing this, that would create a true pyramid shape?

Why do the number of organisms get smaller as you move further up through a food chain?

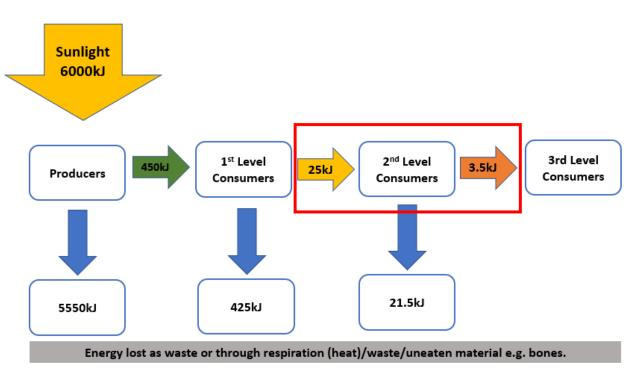
Organisms use energy for growth of new cells, which other way do they use energy?

Which other ways is energy lost at each level in a food chain?









Calculate the efficiency of 2nd level consumers in the food chain above:

Follow this format that we used to calculate the efficiency of first level consumers in our example:

25kJ
$$\div$$
 450kJ x 100 = 5.6% efficiency

Now try working out how efficient producers are at trapping energy from the sun. Use the space below to show your working:



