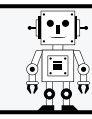
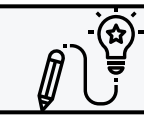
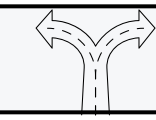
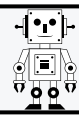
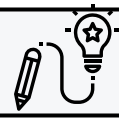
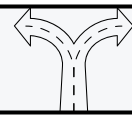
Producers, Consumers, and Decomposers Menu

Directions: Take a look at the different ways you can explore **producers, consumers, and decomposers** on the choice board. Choose the ONE activity that you think will best help you show what you've learned and that you will enjoy working on!

Ask and Investigate 	**Model It!** 	**Be a Data Detective** 
Come up with a question about producers, consumers, or decomposers. Plan a simple way to explore your question.	Create a model to show the different types of consumers (herbivore, carnivore, omnivore) and what they eat.	Research a specific ecosystem and identify examples of producers, different types of consumers, and decomposers that live there. Present your findings.
Math Connections! 	**Explain It!** 	**Solve a Problem!** 
Look for examples of how numbers or measurements can be used to represent the relationships between producers, consumers, and decomposers in an ecosystem	Describe the roles of producers, different types of consumers, and decomposers in an ecosystem. Explain why each group is important for the ecosystem's balance.	Think about a real-world situation where the balance of producers, consumers, or decomposers has been disrupted. Propose a way to understand or address the challenges caused by this disruption.
Tell a Story! 	**Create a Visual!** 	**Be the Teacher!** 
Write a short story from the perspective of a producer, a consumer, or a decomposer in an ecosystem, describing its role and interactions with other organisms.	Create a visual that illustrates a food web, clearly labeling the producers, different levels of consumers, and decomposers.	Create a presentation or activity to teach someone else about the roles of producers, consumers, and decomposers in an ecosystem.

Eco-Organisms: Role Call! Ideas!

Explore the vital roles of producers, consumers, and decomposers in ecosystems with these starting points. Remember, you can always come up with your own amazing projects too!

Ask and Investigate 	**Model It!** 	**Be a Data Detective** 
1. Do all animals eat plants? What else do they eat? 2. What happens to fallen leaves and dead animals in a forest?	1. Use different colors or shapes to represent producers, consumers, and decomposers in an ecosystem. 2. Create a three-part display with examples of producers, consumers, and decomposers.	1. Find three examples of decomposers and describe what they break down. 2. Pick an ecosystem. Find one producer, one consumer, and one decomposer. What evidence helped you decide their role?
Math Connections! 	**Explain It!** 	**Solve a Problem!** 
1. How many seeds can one big oak tree make in a year? What does this number show? 2. How many earthworms can live in one square meter of soil? What does this number tell us?	1. What is the main job of a producer in an ecosystem? Give an example. 2. Why are decomposers important for the health of an ecosystem?	1. Think about a farm. What might happen if there were no decomposers in the soil? How could a farmer address this? 2. Sometimes, too many of one type of consumer can disrupt an ecosystem (like too many deer). What are some ways this problem could be understood or addressed?
Tell a Story! 	**Create a Visual!** 	**Be the Teacher!** 
1. Write a diary entry as a producer (like a plant) describing your day. 2. Create a short comic strip showing a producer, consumer, and decomposer interacting.	1. Draw a diagram with sections for producers, consumers, and decomposers. Include examples and short descriptions. 2. Create a poster explaining the three roles with pictures and definitions.	1. Make a short presentation about the jobs of producers, consumers, and decomposers. 2. Design a game to match organisms with their roles.