

## KEYWORDS AND PHRASES WITH DEFINITIONS FOR LESSON 12

**Apex predator** – a top predator in a food chain

**Consumer** - an organism that gets food from eating other organisms

**Food Chain** - the transfer of food energy from one organism to other organisms

**Food Web** – A complex system of interconnected food chains

**Organism** – A living system such as a plant, animal, fungus, or microorganism

**Omnivore** – a species that eats both plants and animals

**Plankton, (Phyto and Zoo)** - microscopic plants (phytoplankton) and animals (zooplankton) that are free floating drifters with their movements controlled by ocean tides and currents; an important food source in the marine food web

**Predator** - an animal that hunts and captures other animals for food

**Primary Consumer** – a species that eats plants; a herbivore

**Primary Producer** - an organism that makes its own food from the energy of the sun, such as phytoplankton and algae-Producers form the base of the food web

**Secondary Consumer** – a carnivore; a species that eats herbivores

**Tertiary Consumer** – a carnivore that eats another carnivore

**Trophic levels** – the feeding levels in a food chain/web