**How is Leaf Litter Important to Food Webs?** Name: Date:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Primary Consumers: Herbivores, or animals that eat only plants. | Secondary/ Tertiary/Apex Consumers Etc Omnivores and CarnivoresOmnivores eat meat and plants Carnivores eat only meat |
|  |  |

**Directions**: Research producers and consumers of North Carolina, or use the information provided, put one organism on each strip provided, cut when complete and staple them in loops, in order, making a food chain that connects into a circle. Then in the next phases you will work with others to connect the chains looking for other predator/prey relationships.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Primary | Secondary/ Tertiary/Apex Consumers |
| Wooly Bear Caterpillar Monarch Caterpillar Bent line gray moth caterpillarMallard Duck Ruffed grouse  Star Nosed MoleDeermouse | Black Bellied Salamanders  Fowler’s ToadEastern Box Turtle Ground SkinkFive Lined SkinkBobcatLong tailed WeaselRed Fox |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Trophic Level** | **Producers** | **Consumers** | **Decomposers** |
| Resources |  [Trees of NC](https://projects.ncsu.edu/cals/plantbiology/ncsc/tnc/#.Yb3pPp5Kjb0) [Native Plants for your](https://ncwildflower.org/recommended-native-species/) [Backyard](https://ncwildflower.org/recommended-native-species/) | [NC Insect Guide](https://www.insectidentification.org/insects-by-state.php?thisState=North%20Carolina) [Amphibians and Reptiles of NC](https://herpsofnc.org/)[North Carolina Wildlife Resources](https://www.ncwildlife.org/learning/species) [NC Birds from Audubon](https://nc.audubon.org/birds) | Mold (fungus) Red earthworms BacteriaFlies Beetles |
| **Some Examples from NC**: All of which make up parts of the leaf litter. | Oak tree leaves AcornsLoblolly pine pinecones Maple leavesMaple seeds Rhododendron MilkweedNorthern maidenhair fern Sweet gum tree leavesSweet gum seed pods |  |
|  | Swamp Rose |  |
|  | Virginia creeper |  |
| **Your Additional Research** |  |  |

