**Environmental Science Unit 2 Chapter 5 Vocabulary**

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| **Photosynthesis** | **Plants, algae, and some bacteria use sunlight, carbon dioxide, and water to produce carbohydrates and oxygen.** |
| **Cellular Respiration** | **The process by which cells produce energy from carbohydrates.** |
| **Producer** | **An organism that can make food often through photosynthesis.** |
| **Consumer** | **Eats other organisms to obtain food.** |
| **Decomposer** | **An organism that gets food from breaking down dead organisms.** |
| **Food Chain** | **Shows the pathway of energy transfer through a few organisms.** |
| **Food Web** | **A diagram that shows the feeding relationships between many species in an ecosystem.** |
| **Trophic Level** | **The individual steps in a food chain or food pyramid.** |
| **Ecological Succession** | **The gradual process by which ecosystems change and develop over time.** |
| **Primary Succession** | **Succession that begins in an area that did not have life before.** |
| **Secondary Succession** | **Succession in an area partially or totally destroyed but has soil.** |
| **Pioneer Species** | **The first species to colonize an area.** |
| **Climax Community** | **A final, stable community in equilibrium with the environment.** |