

Vocabulary



decomposer a living thing that breaks down dead or decaying things for food

Decomposers are nature's "recyclers." They break down dead things so that the matter in them can be used again.

fungus a kind of decomposer

Fungi have many cells. Bacteria are decomposers, too. But bacteria have only one cell.

mold a kind of fungus

Other kinds of fungi are mushrooms and yeast.

photosynthesis a chemical reaction in plants that makes food for the plant

Molds cannot carry out photosynthesis. They do not have chlorophyll like plants do.

spore made by molds when they reproduce

Spores grow into new molds.

spore case the part of a mold that produces spores

A spore case can produce millions of spores.