

KEY VOCABULARY

**habitat**

the **natural home or environment** of an animal, plant, or other organism

**producer**

a living thing, usually a plant, which **produces its own food**

**consumer**

a living thing, usually an animal, which **feeds on plants or other animals**

**decomposer**

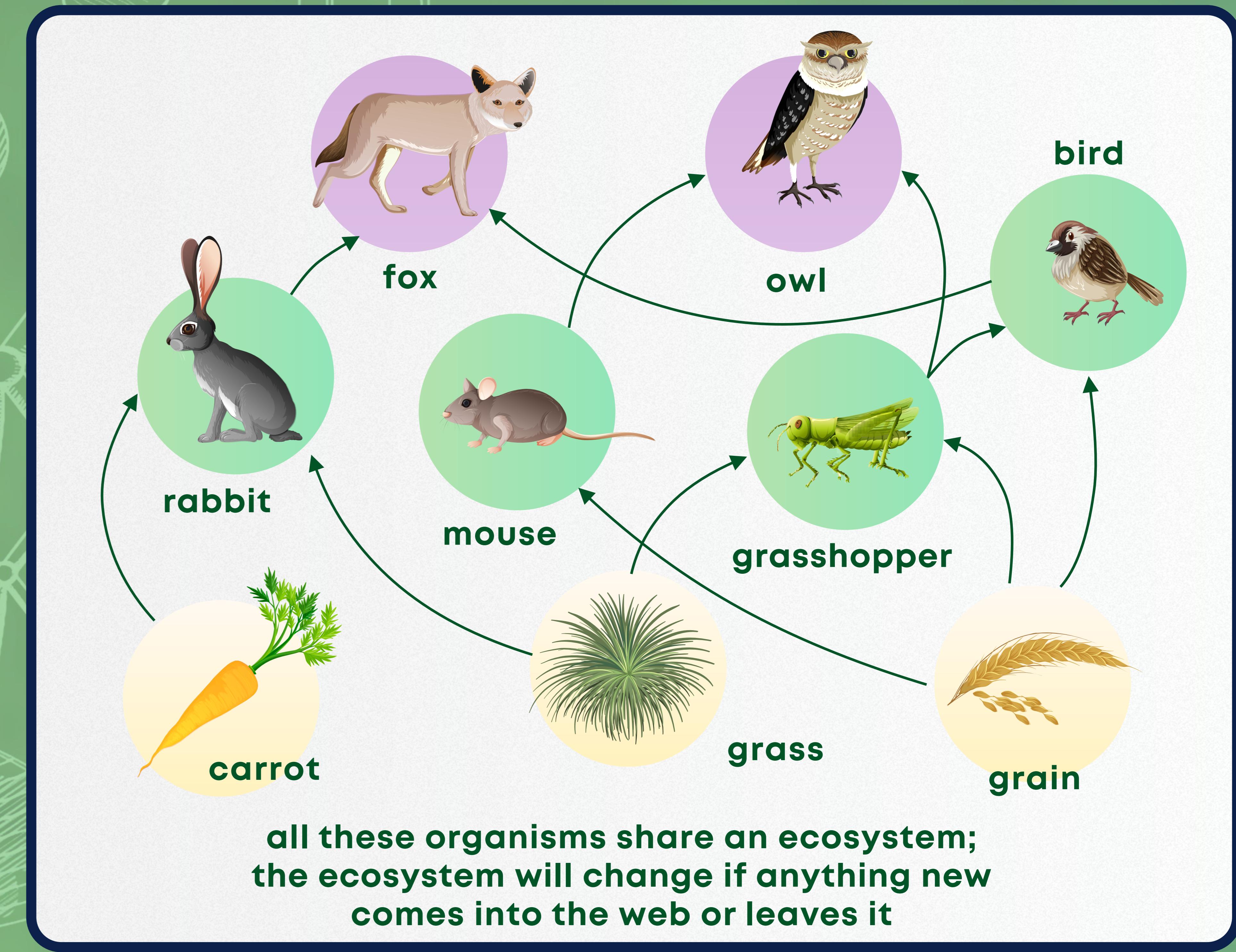
a living thing, usually a bacterium or fungus, which **breaks down the cells of dead plants and animals** into simpler substances

**ecosystem**

a system formed by the **interaction of organisms with their environment**

**pollution**

the **introduction of harmful substances or products into the environment** (pollution can damage ecosystems)



air pollution is one way that humans can damage the environment (exhaust from vehicles and smoke from factories can cause air pollution)

