

## Biogeochemical Cycles

-unlike energy which "flows through" an ecosystem to eventually end up as heat, matter 'cycles' within all ecosystems

-matter on earth is considered either '*organic*' or '*inorganic*'

-matter can never be destroyed, it can only be changed in form.

Ex: wood burning

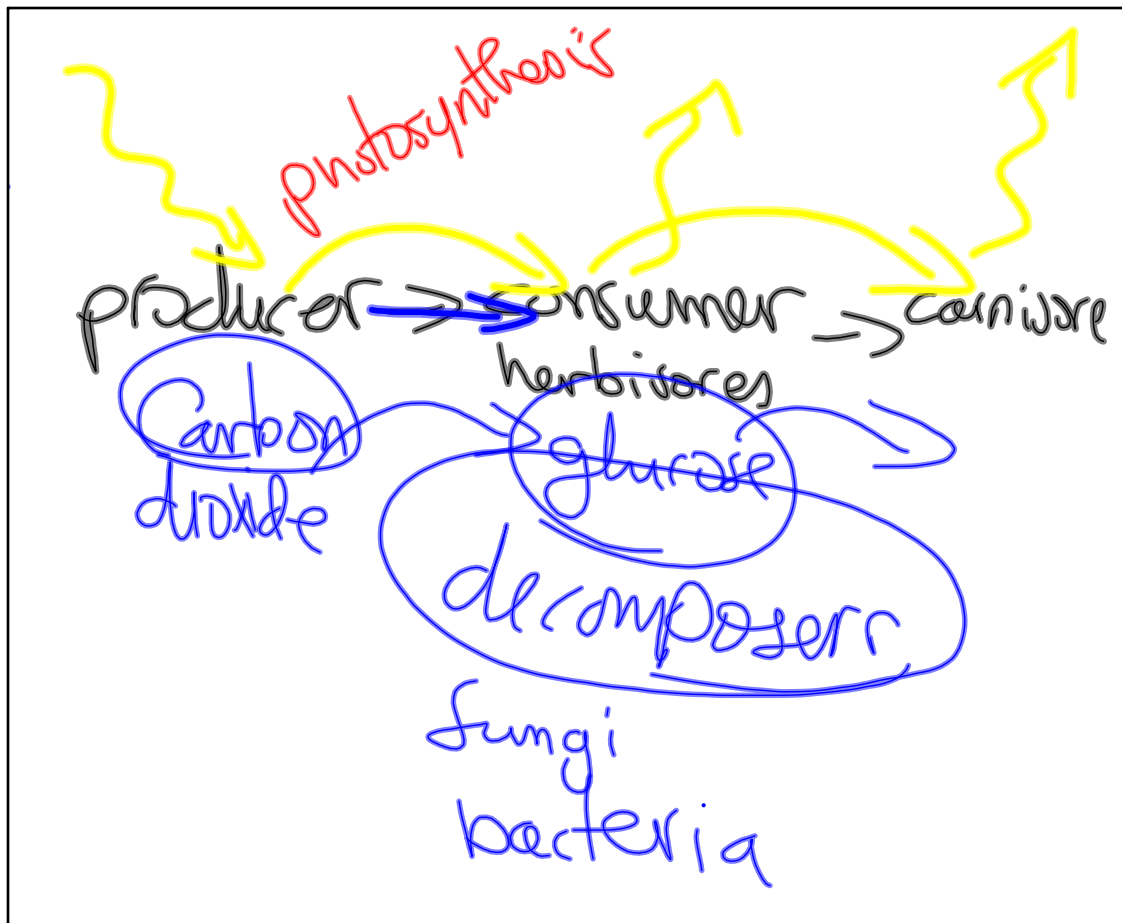
-three main cycles to be discussed

Water Cycle

Carbon Cycle

Nitrogen Cycle

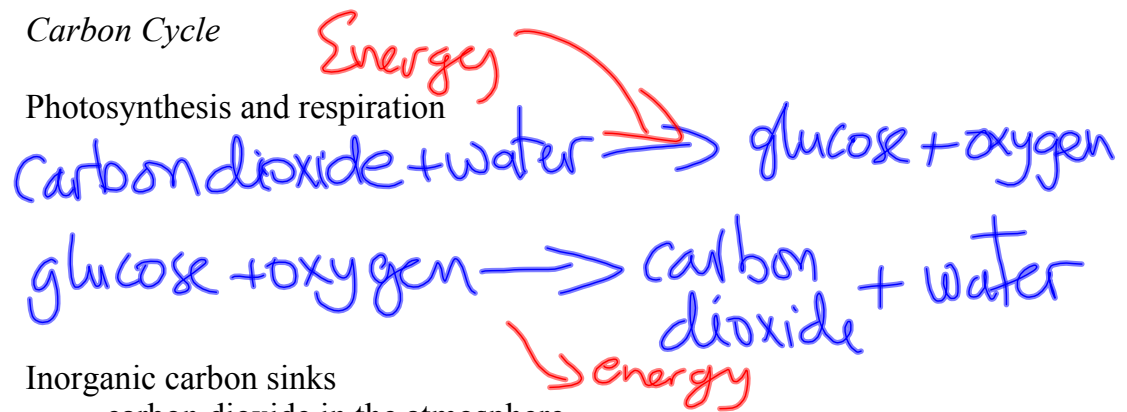
Sep 26 - 7:03 PM



Feb 22-2:13 PM

## Carbon Cycle

Photosynthesis and respiration



Inorganic carbon sinks

- carbon dioxide in the atmosphere
- dissolved carbon dioxide in the ocean
- calcium carbonate in shells of living creatures and limestone deposits

Organic carbon sinks

- bodies of living things
- peat bogs
- fossil fuel deposits