

# THE CARBON CYCLE

Cut out Boxes to label a diagram

Burning fuels add carbon dioxide to the air

Carbon is stored underground in fossil fuels for millions of years

Photosynthesis in plants uses up carbon dioxide

Respiration in all living things gives out carbon dioxide

Decomposition releases carbon dioxide

Carbon Dioxide  
in the air

Using the words below complete the passage then copy it out.

carbohydrates	carbon dioxide	eaten	fats
photosynthesis	proteins	respire	respiration

Carbon is a very important component of living things, because because it is an essential part of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Carbon circulates through out the ecosystem. The air contains about 0.03% carbon dioxide. When plants \_\_\_\_\_, carbon atoms from carbon dioxide become part of glucose or starch molecules in the plant.

Some of the glucose will be broken down by the plant in \_\_\_\_\_. The carbon in the glucose become part of a carbon dioxide molecule again, and is released back into the air.

Some of the carbon in the plant will be \_\_\_\_\_ by animals. The animals \_\_\_\_\_, releasing some of it back into the air as carbon dioxide.

When the plant or animal dies, decomposers will feed on them. The carbon becomes part of the decomposers' bodies. When they respire, they release \_\_\_\_\_ into the air again.

## RESPIRATION

Sugar + oxygen  $\longrightarrow$  carbon dioxide + water + ENERGY

## PHOTOSYNTHESIS

Carbon dioxide + water  $\xrightarrow{\text{LIGHT}}$  glucose + oxygen