

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

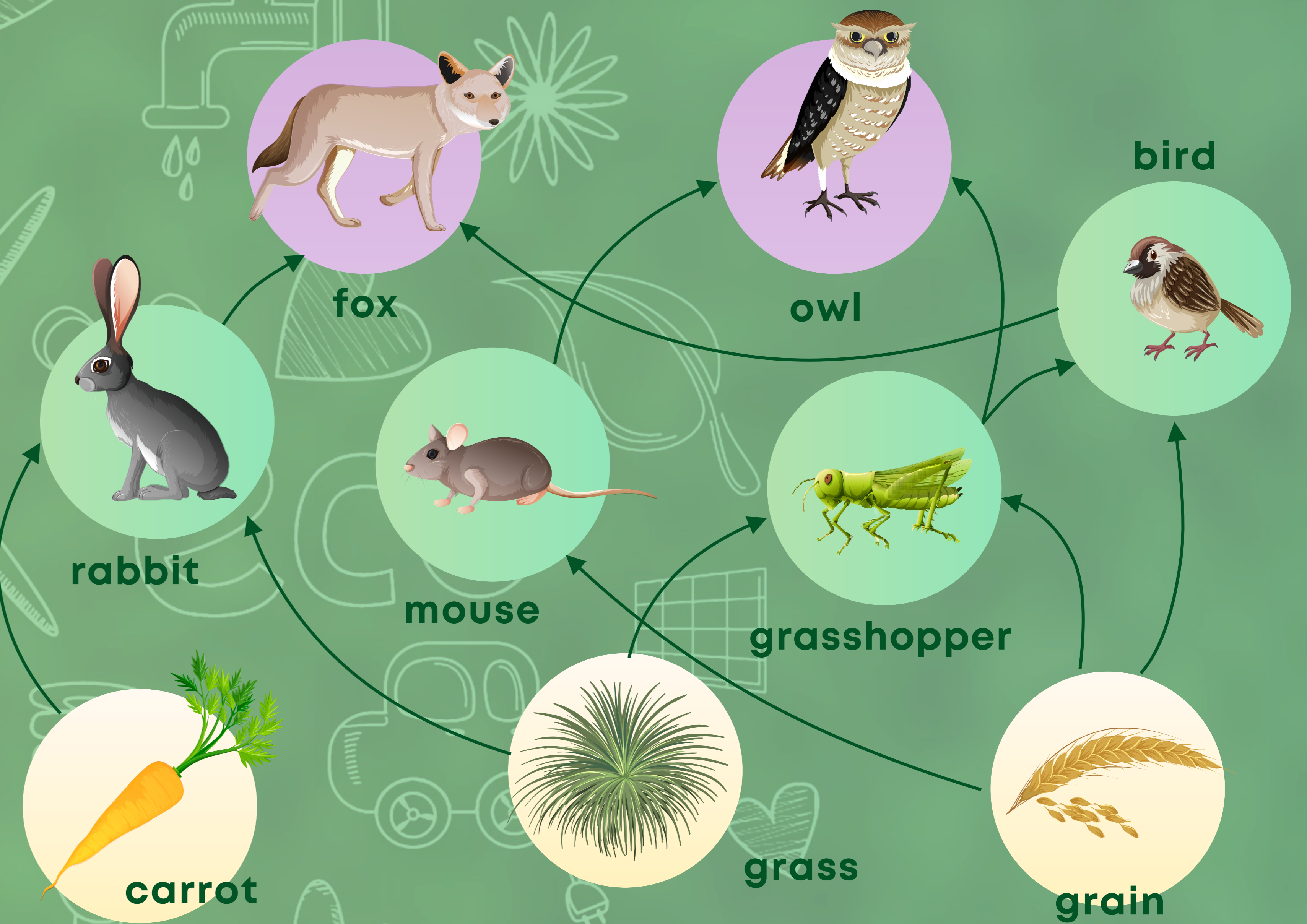
a living thing, usually a bacterium or fungus, which **breaks down the cells of dead plants and animals** into simpler substances

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)



all these organisms share an ecosystem; the ecosystem will change if anything new comes into the web or leaves it



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

