ORIGINAL INPUT PASSAGE

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In a food chain, energy stored in biomass can be transferred when one organism consumes another. Not all of that energy becomes biomass in the consumer: some material is not eaten or assimilated, and respiration transfers energy to other forms, including heat. Energy is conserved, but it flows through ecosystems rather than being recycled in the same way as atoms in matter. Photosynthesis transfers light energy into chemical stores; it does not create energy from nothing. A food-chain arrow indicates the direction of transfer from a food source to a consumer.