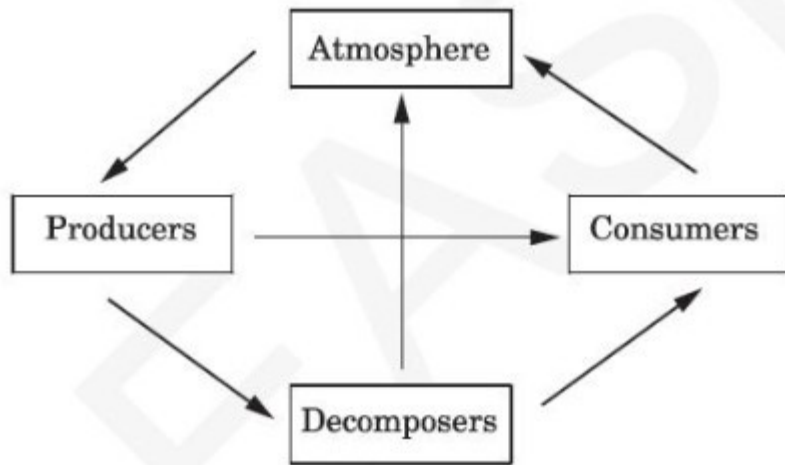


SC.912.L.17.9 – Food Webs and Energy Transfer – Example 6 Answer

The diagram below shows the flow of carbon in a terrestrial ecosystem.



Which will most likely happen if the decomposers are removed from the carbon cycle?

- A. The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will increase.**
- B. The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will decrease.**
- C. The amount of carbon dioxide used by producers will increase.**
- D. The amount of carbon dioxide needed by consumers will decrease.**

Answer

B. The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will decrease.

Decomposers release carbon into the atmosphere, so if they were removed less carbon would reach the atmosphere.