

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

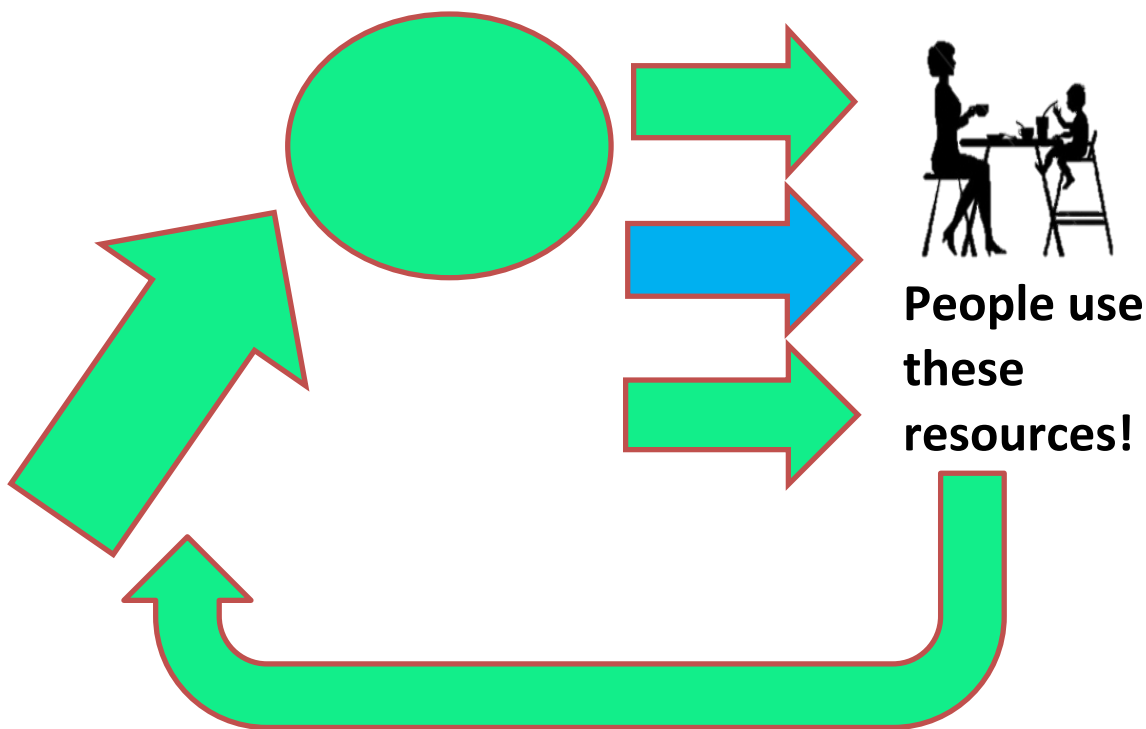
## Anaerobic Digestion: Putting Microbes to Work! Worksheet

AD stands for \_\_\_\_\_.

AD is the process in which microorganisms break down biodegradable material without using \_\_\_\_\_!

Where does AD happen in nature? \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the blanks in the diagram below:



Anaerobic digestion's main product is gas. Biogas is usually ~70% methane (flammable!) and about 30% CO<sub>2</sub>. Natural gas, which may be piped into your house, is ~90% methane.

For what might you use biogas? \_\_\_\_\_

Anaerobic digestion also produces a nutrient-rich water stream (lots of nitrogen and phosphorous). *For what do you think you could use this "waste" product?*

Now that you are familiar with anaerobic digestion, think about how it might be different from (or the same as) composting. *Write down your ideas:*

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