

# Mushroom Vocabulary Words

100<sup>th</sup> Monkey Mushroom Farm



There are some important mushroom terms that you should know. Use this list of definitions to help you solve the word search puzzles.

## MUSHROOM TERMS:

**Amastigomycota:** fungi that produce fruiting bodies

**Basidia:** club-like structures that contain spores

**Decompose:** to break down non-living matter so plants and animals can consume the nutrients

**Decomposers:** organisms that decompose non-living matter

**Fungi:** the plural form of fungus

**Fungus:** one of the six kingdoms comprised of molds, yeast and mushrooms

**Hyphae:** the string-like cells that make up mycelium

**Inoculate:** to mix spawn with a substrate, such as sawdust, straw or wood

**Mushroom:** the fruiting, reproductive body of a fungus

**Mycelium:** the root or body of the fungus

**Mycologist:** someone who studies mushrooms

**Mycology:** the study of mushrooms

**Mycorrhizal:** fungi with mutually beneficial relationships with the roots of green plants

**Parasites:** organisms that attack (and live off of) living things; includes some non-edible species of fungus

**Primordia:** plural form of primordium (baby mushrooms)

**Primordium:** a mushroom in its baby stage of growth

**Saprophytes:** fungi that lives on non-living matter (dead trees, sticks); decomposers

**Spawn:** spores that have been germinated into mycelium to inoculate a substrate

**Spores:** cells of the mushroom used to spread the fungus; seeds

**Substrate:** any organic matter on which the mycelium can grow, such as sawdust, soil, logs, straw, compost