

# Food chains

Outstanding Science Year 4 - Animals, including humans - OS4B007

National Curriculum Statutory Requirements

4B3 - construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey

## Learning Objective



I can create a food chain and explain what it shows.

Me:   

Teacher:   

## Food chains

All organisms (living things) need food in order to survive.

**Plants** make their own food using air and water and the energy from the Sun. This process is called **photosynthesis**. We call plants **producers** because they produce their own food.

**Animals** cannot make their own food and need to eat other living things in order to survive. We call animals **consumers** because they need to consume other living things.

Some animals eat other animals. An animal that hunts, kills and eats other animals is called a **predator**. The animal that it hunts, kills and eats is called its **prey**.

## Food chains

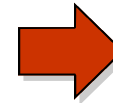
A group of organisms that depend on each other in a certain place is called an **ecosystem**. We can show how energy moves through an ecosystem using a **food chain**. The food chain shows which organisms are eaten by other organisms.

The arrow means 'is eaten by'. It shows food energy moving from one organism to another. It does not mean 'eats'!

In this food chain, the arrow is going from the grass to the cow. This means that the cow is eating the grass. Another way of thinking about it is that food energy (that the grass, a producer, made using sunlight) is moving into the cow (the consumer).



Grass (producer)



Cow (consumer)

## Activity

Carefully cut out the pictures of organisms on the following page. Use them to make your own food chains. Some organisms appear in more than one food chain. Write the name of each organism underneath its picture. Identify whether it is a **producer** or a **consumer** and whether it is a **predator** or **prey**. An organism might be both a predator and prey in the same food chain. There is a word bank to help you.

## Word bank

leafy weed

wheat

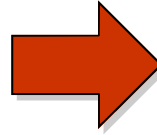
rabbit

fox

field mouse

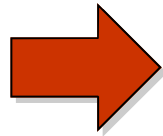
owl

Name: _____
Producer? _____
Consumer? _____
Predator? _____
Prey? _____

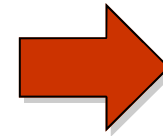


Name: _____
Producer? _____
Consumer? _____
Predator? _____
Prey? _____

Name: _____
Producer? _____
Consumer? _____
Predator? _____
Prey? _____



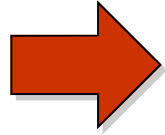
Name: _____
Producer? _____
Consumer? _____
Predator? _____
Prey? _____



Name: _____
Producer? _____
Consumer? _____
Predator? _____
Prey? _____

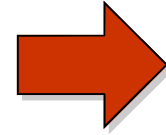
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Producer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Consumer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Predator? \_\_\_\_\_  
Prey? \_\_\_\_\_



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Producer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Consumer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Predator? \_\_\_\_\_  
Prey? \_\_\_\_\_

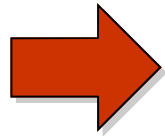


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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Producer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Consumer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Predator? \_\_\_\_\_  
Prey? \_\_\_\_\_

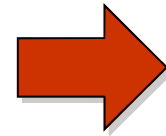
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Producer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Consumer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Predator? \_\_\_\_\_  
Prey? \_\_\_\_\_



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Producer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Consumer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Predator? \_\_\_\_\_  
Prey? \_\_\_\_\_



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Producer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Consumer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Predator? \_\_\_\_\_  
Prey? \_\_\_\_\_

