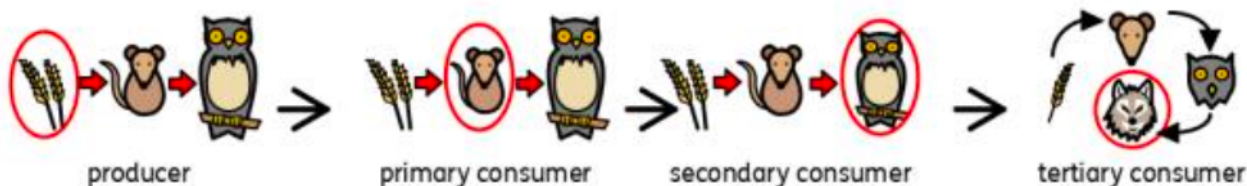


Key knowledge and Diagrams

What is a food chain?

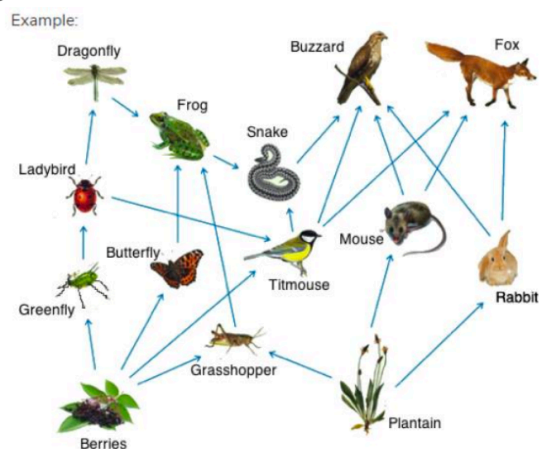
- A food chain is a simple way to show the direction in which energy moves from the producer to the various consumers to the top or tertiary consumer.
- The producer (a plant) gets its energy from the Sun.



- In this example, the producer is the wheat, which gets its energy from the Sun.
- The mouse eats the wheat and gets its energy from it. The mouse is the primary consumer.
- The mouse is then eaten by the owl, which is the secondary consumer. The owl gets its energy from the mouse. The owl is the predator and the mouse is the prey.
- The owl is then eaten by the wolf, which is the tertiary consumer. The wolf gets its energy from the owl.
- The arrows show the direction in which the energy travels

What is a Food Web?

- A food web shows the direction in which energy travels when animals and producers (plants) are eaten by more than one thing.
- A food web shows multiple food chains where there are multiple feeding relationships



- When part of the food chain is removed, this has an impact on the other parts of the food chain. The number of some species will increase, while the population of others will decrease.
- This can have a direct impact on the survival of the species.
- The population of tertiary consumers depends on healthy populations of producers, primary and secondary consumers

Key Vocabulary

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| classification key | a system which divides things into groups or types |
| energy | the ability and strength to do physical things |
| environment | all the circumstances, people, things, and events around them that influence their life |
| food chain | a series of living things which are linked to each other because each thing feeds on the one next to it in the series |
| habitat | the natural environment in which an animal or plant normally lives or grows |
| herbivore | an animal that only eats plants |
| life processes | there are seven processes that tell us that living things are alive |
| microhabitat | a small part of the environment that supports a habitat, such as a fallen log in a forest |
| omnivore | person or animal eats all kinds of food, including both meat and plants |
| organism | a living thing |
| predator | an animal that kills and eats other animals |
| prey | an animal hunted or captured by another for food |
| primary consumer | an organism that feeds on producers . They are always herbivores |
| producer | organisms that make their own food using energy from the Sun. |
| secondary consumer | organisms that eat primary consumers for energy |
| tertiary consumer | tertiary consumers eat primary and secondary consumers as their main source of food |

