

Key Concepts

What are food chains?

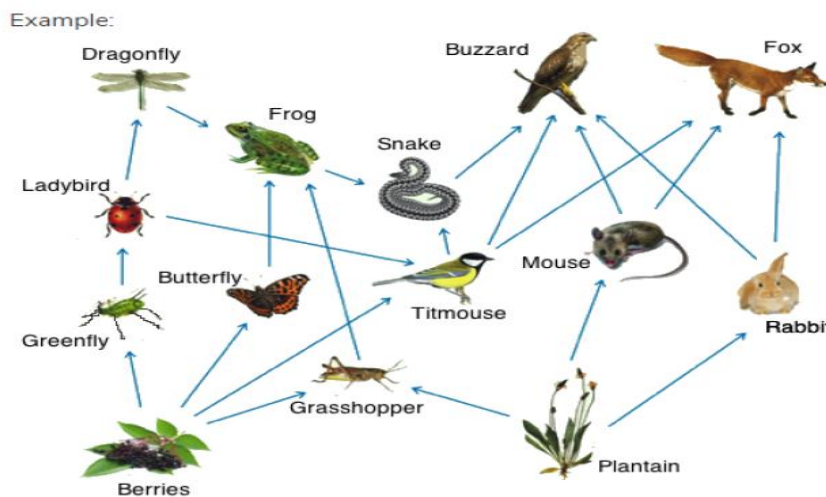
- A food chain is a simple way to show the direction in which energy moves from the producer to the various consumers to the tertiary consumer.
- The producer (a plant) gets its energy from the Sun.



- 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 are food webs?

- 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.



Key Vocabulary




food chain	A series of living things which are linked to each other because each thing feeds on the one next to it
food web	A combination of food chains that integrate to form a network
predator	An animal that kills and eats other animals.
prey	An animal hunted or captured by another for food.
primary consumer	An organism which feeds on producers. They are always herbivores.
producer	Organisms which make their own food 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.

Famous Scientists



William Beaumont (1785-1853) was a surgeon in the U.S. Army who became known as the "Father of Gastric Physiology" following his research on human digestion.

Working Scientifically Skills

??	Using Scientific knowledge to ask questions.		Using scientific language to draw conclusions.
	Recognising when to use other sources to answer questions and separating opinion from fact.		Using and developing keys to identify and classify living things and materials