

Year 6 Science: Food Chains and Ecosystems with Bea the Bee

Learning objective: To identify and describe the roles of organisms within a food chain, including producers, consumers, and predators.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of how energy flows through an ecosystem. Bea the Bee has helped design these to help you master the vocabulary of food chains.

What is a Producer in a food chain?

A living thing, usually a plant, that makes its own food using energy from sunlight via photosynthesis.

Define a Consumer in a food chain.

An organism that cannot make its own food and must eat other plants or animals to survive.

What is the difference between a Herbivore and a Carnivore?

A herbivore eats only plants, whereas a carnivore eats only other animals.

How is an Omnivore different from a Carnivore?

An omnivore eats both plant and animal matter, while a carnivore eats only animal matter.

Define Predator and Prey.

A predator is an animal that hunts and eats other animals; the prey is the animal that gets hunted and eaten.

What do the arrows in a food chain represent?

The arrows represent the direction of energy flow from the organism being eaten to the organism that eats it.

What is a Food Web?

A complex system of interlocking and interdependent food chains within an ecosystem.

Why are plants considered the start of almost every food chain?

Because they are the only organisms that can convert sunlight into stored energy that other animals then consume.

What is an Ecosystem?

A community of living organisms interacting with their physical environment, such as a pond, forest, or meadow.

If a food chain is: Grass -> Rabbit -> Fox, which organism is the producer?

The grass is the producer.

In the chain: Grass -> Rabbit -> Fox, which animal is the predator?

The fox is the predator (and the rabbit is the prey).

What happens to the energy as it moves up a food chain?

Some energy is used by the organism for life processes (like moving or growing), meaning less energy is passed on to the next level.