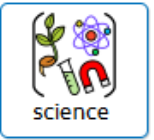


Science – Year 4 – Food chains



1. To discover what is a food chain	2. To construct and interpret food chains including the producer, predator and prey.	3. To draw a simple food chain identifying the producer, predator and prey.	4. To understand the impact that humans have on food chains.
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food chain	an order of living things, to show how energy is transferred when one living thing eats another	 food chain
producer	A living thing that makes its own food from the sun	 producer
predator	An animal that eats prey	 predator
prey	Animals that are eaten by predators	 prey
consumer	A living thing that eats other living things	 consumer
habitat	An area where animals and plants live	 habitat
farming	the process of using land to grow crops and raise animals	 farming
overfishing	Removing fish from a habitat	 overfishing
hunting	Chasing and killing animals	 hunting

Food Chains

Food chains are a way for scientists to show how energy is passed between living things through the food that they eat.

The arrows in a **food chain** show how energy is transferred from one living thing to another as it is eaten. For example, as the rabbit eats the dandelion, energy is transferred from the dandelion to the rabbit.

Parts of a Food Chain

Food chains consist of a **producer**, **consumer** and **predator**.

- All **food chains** start with a **producer**.
- Consumers** can be herbivores, carnivores or omnivores.

Classifying Food Chains

Living things can be classified in multiple ways. In this **food chain**, the mouse is a **consumer** but also **prey**. The owl is a **consumer** but also a **predator**. Plants are **producers** because they make their own energy from the Sun.

producer **consumer prey** **consumer predator**

Different Food Chains

The number of living things in a **food chain** depends on the habitat and relationships between the living things found there.

Human Impact on Food Chains

Changes to the conditions within a habitat can have negative impacts on the plants and animals within it.

Some ways in which humans can negatively impact a habitat include:

- farming
- habitat loss
- overfishing
- hunting