

Food Webs

Explore the ways energy flows through living systems



Match the roles in the Food System with their definition.
Can you think of examples of each type of organism?

Decomposer

These organisms can be carnivores, herbivores, or omnivores but they are unable to produce their own energy.

Producer

Fungi, bacteria and some invertebrate organisms that serve as "nature's garbage disposal" to break down decaying matter, including once living plant and animal organic matter.

Consumer

These organisms convert light, air and water into energy in the form of sugar. They are the start of all food chains.

Carnivores that consume other carnivores.

Primary Consumer

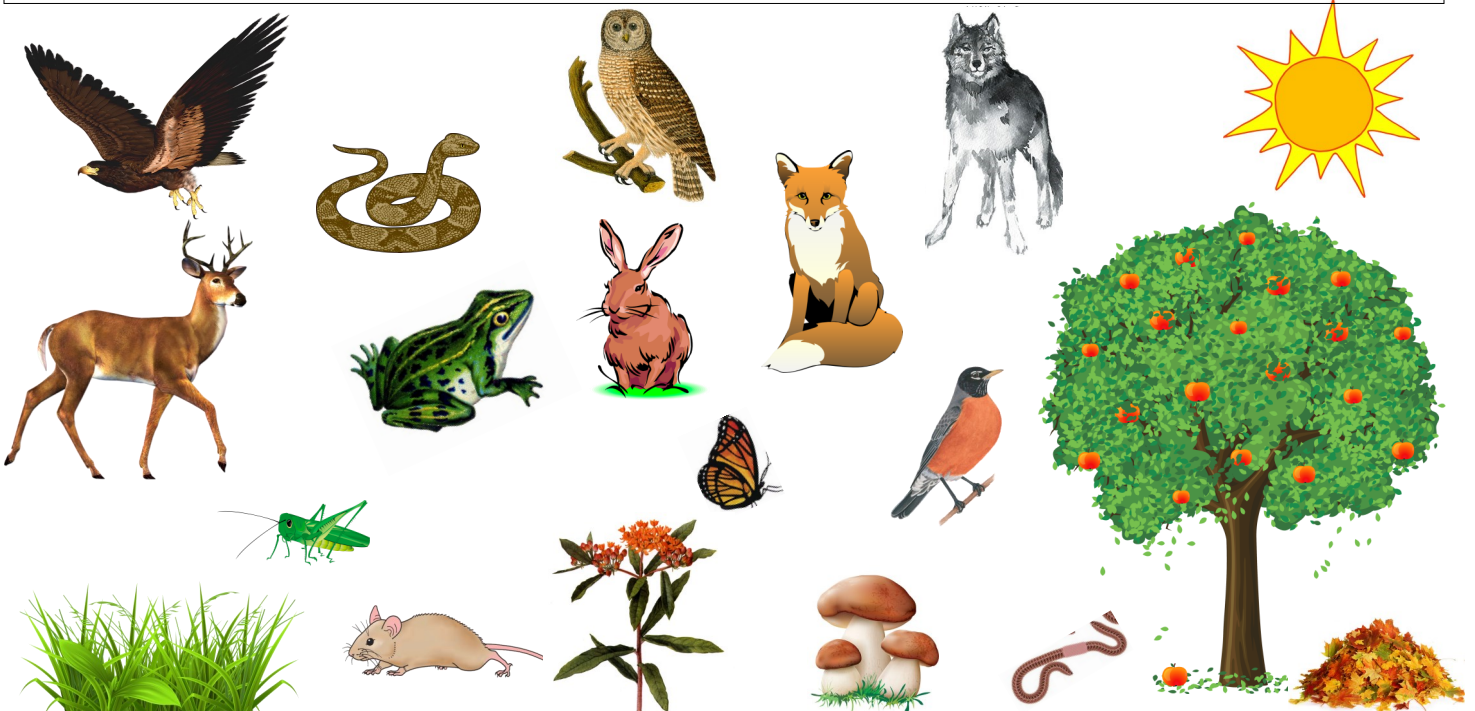
Herbivores, these organisms only eat plants.

Secondary Consumer

Carnivores that consume herbivores.

Tertiary Consumer

You may already be familiar with **Food Chains**, which describe feeding relationships between organisms in a linear fashion, or only moving in one direction. However, if we want to take a closer look into **food systems**, **food webs** are a helpful tool. They show multiple food chains, and multiple relationships and connections between organisms. Most often, organisms eat, and get eaten by a variety of other organisms. Check out the back for an example, then build your own food web by connecting each organism with something that it eats and something that eats it!

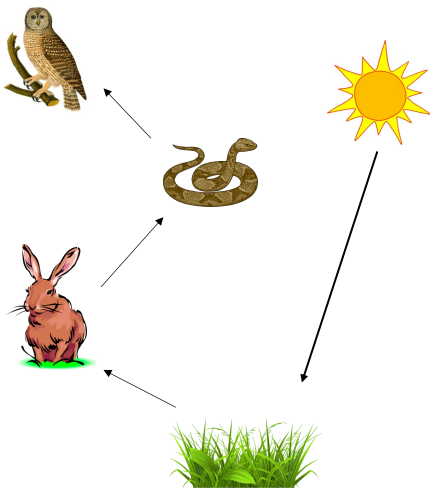


The Food Literacy Project's mission is youth transforming their communities through food, farming, and the land. Since 2006, we have engaged over 50,000 youth, families, and community members—striving to create a healthy and equitable community where people and places thrive.

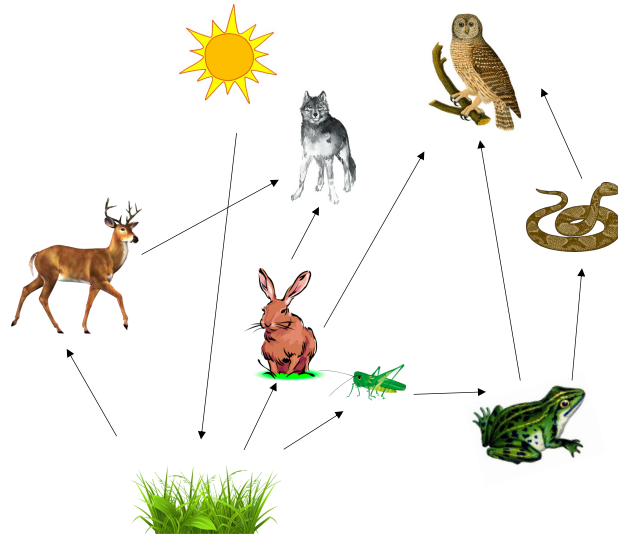
We rely on community support to thrive and grow. Visit us at www.foodliteracyproject.org and follow us on social media to stay informed about what's "growing on," and to find more recipes and resources.



Food Chain Example



Food Web Example



USDA
Supplemental
Nutrition
Assistance
Program

Putting Healthy Food
 Within Reach

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