

Food Chain and Web

A **food chain** is the flow of food in an ecosystem from one living thing to another. A food chain also shows how energy moves through the environment.

Living things in an ecosystem can be classified as **producers, consumers and decomposers**.

- ❖ **Producers** are plants; they make their own food.
- ❖ **Consumers** are animals; they eat other living things as food.
- ❖ **Decomposers** are living things such as mushrooms and earthworms; they break down dead plants and animals for food.

The name for animals that eat only plants is a **herbivore**.

The name for animals that eat only meat is called **carnivores**.

The name for animals that eat both plants and meat is called **omnivores**.

The food chain begins with a green plant, the producer. It continues with an animal, the consumer that eats the green plant, and continues another consumer that eats the animal that eats the plant, and finally the food chain will end with a decomposers [the final consumer] that breaks down dead plants and animals. A food chain may include one or more other consumers. Therefore, the energy that the plant gets from the sun is transferred to all of the animals in the chain, this is called energy transfer. A **food web** is a combination of several food chains.



Carnivore - an organism that only eats animals (meat).



Herbivore - an organism that only eats plants.



Omnivore - an organism that eats plants and animals.



Instructions: Answer the following questions correctly.

1. Drag and match the correct word to complete each sentence.

Omnivores food web carnivores food chain herbivores

- a) A _____ is the flow of food in an ecosystem.
- b) _____ are animals that eat only plants.
- c) Animals that only eat meat are called _____.
- d) _____ eat both plants and meat.
- e) A _____ is a combination of several food chains.

2. Draw a line and match the word to its correct definition.

Producers

Break down dead plants and animals for food.

Consumers

Are plants, they make their own food.

Decomposers

Are animals that eat other living things for food.

3. Drag and match each animal to its right category



Carnivore

Herbivore

Omnivore

4. Drag and place each animal in the correct order in the food chain.



Producer	Primary Consumer	Secondary Consumer	Tertiary Consumer	Final Consumer
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