Y3/4 Science Knowledge Organiser – Autumn Term 1

Food Chains

Key Vocabulary Overview

food chain	shows how energy is passed from one living thing to another when they are eaten
producer	a living thing (usually a plant) that makes its own energy from the Sun
prey	an animal that gets eaten by other animals
predator	an animal that eats other animals
consumer	a living thing that eats other living things
farming	growing crops or raising animals for human use
overfishing	when too many fish are taken from a habitat, causing their population to drop to very low levels
hunting	when people find and capture wild animals for food or sport

Herbivore- an animal that only eats plants

Omnivore- person or animal that eats both animals and plants

Carnivore- an animal that eats meat

Primary consumer—an organism that feeds on producers . They are always herbivores

Secondary consumer— organisms that eat primary consumers for energy

Tertiary consume— Tertiary consumers eat primary and secondary consumers as their main source of food

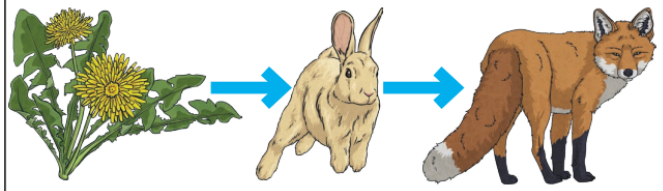






Food Chains

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

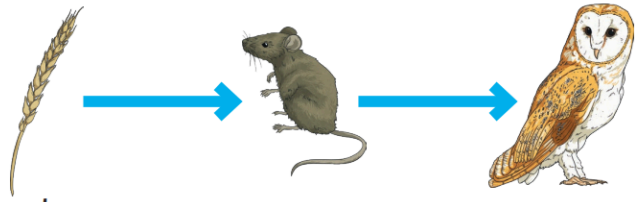
Food chains consist of a **producer**, **consumer** and **predator**.

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



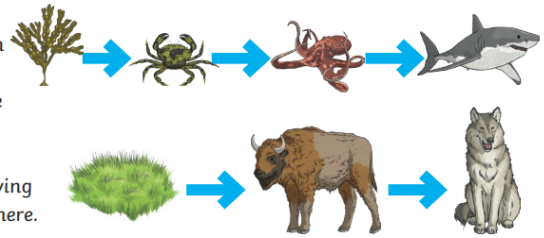
Classifying Food Chains

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.



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**

