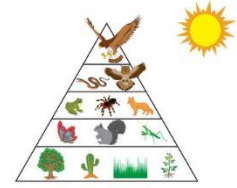


FOOD CHAINS



INTRODUCTION

A food chain shows how energy moves from one living thing to another in nature. It starts with plants, which are eaten by herbivores (animals that only eat plants). These herbivores are then eaten by carnivores (animals that eat other animals). This helps to understand how animals and plants depend on each other for food.

WHAT IS A FOOD CHAIN

In a food chain, each living thing plays a role. Plants are called producers because they make their own food from the sun. Herbivores are primary consumers because they eat plants. Carnivores are secondary consumers because they eat herbivores. Sometimes, there are even higher-level consumers that eat other carnivores.

EXAMPLE OF A FOOD CHAIN

1. The sun shines on grass.
2. A rabbit eats the grass.
3. A fox eats the rabbit.

In this example, the grass is the producer, the rabbit is the herbivore, and the fox is the carnivore.

THE IMPORTANCE OF FOOD CHAINS

Food chains are important because they show how energy is passed from one living thing to another. Without food chains, plants and animals would not be able to survive. Every animal and plant depends on others for food, and each part of the food chain helps maintain a healthy environment. When one part of the food chain is affected, it can impact other parts too.

FIND OUT MORE...

[Year 4 Food Chains - BBC Bitesize](#)

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. What is the first link in a food chain?
2. What do herbivores eat?
3. Who is the primary consumer in this food chain: grass → rabbit → fox?
4. What do carnivores eat?
5. Which of these is a secondary consumer in a food chain?