

# Who Eats Who?



Who eats who? encourages children to explore the interdependence of living things that live in or around rivers, by creating food chains and food webs.

## Learning outcomes:

The children will learn about:

- The variety of animals that live in and around rivers
- How living things in the river environment depend on each other for survival
- Food chains and food-webs

## Resources:

- Westcountry Rivers Trust Food Chains Card Game
- String
- Dry Wipe Markers

## Activities

### 1. Make your own river food chain

(Activity to do in pairs or individually)

Make your own river food chain using the WRT food chain cards. Lay out the cards on the table. Start with the sun and then a producer such as algae or waterweed, then a herbivore, followed by a carnivore and possibly a follow-on carnivore. Draw arrows to show the flow of energy (e.g. from producer to carnivore). What is the longest chain you can create?

Use vocabulary such as producer, consumer, prey, predator, herbivore, carnivore, omnivore.



## 2. Food Web

Designed to be a group activity.

Form a circle. The WRT Food Chain cards should be given out to each child with an image of a living thing from a river system (plants and animals) and their food sources. A ball of yarn/string is passed between the children to connect interlinked animals and plants to form a food web. The 'scenario cards' can be called out, prompting children with different cards to step out of the game and drop their part of the string.

Use this demonstration to prompt discussion about how animals in an ecosystem are linked and depend on each other for survival. Introduce ideas of resilience in an ecosystem- the more links within a system the more resilient it is.

### Curriculum links

These activities link to the following parts of the Science National Curriculum:

#### Key Stage 1:

- Working scientifically
- Animals including Humans
- Living Things and their Habitats

#### Key Stage 2:

- Working scientifically
- Animals including Humans
- Living Things and their Habitats

### Key Questions:

1. What do we need energy for? Where do we (humans) get our energy from?
2. What kind of living things live in or near a river?
3. How do plants get their food/energy? Where does the energy come from?
4. Where do the animals in the river get their food/energy?
5. Can you group the living things into producers and consumers?