

Worksheet answers

1. Draw a food chain you created.

Answers will vary.

2. What do the arrows on your sheet show? Why is the direction they point important?

Arrows show energy flow. Energy moves from the organism being eaten (prey), into the organism that is eating it (predator). This shows how animals get energy to survive.

3. Why must a food chain start with a plant?

Plants produce their own food using energy from the sun. Animals can't do this, so every food chain starts with a plant.

4. Where do plants get nutrients from?

Plants get nutrients from soil, through their roots.

5. The first living thing in a food chain is called a producer. What was the producer in your chain? Why do you think it's called a producer?

The producer in the chain is always a plant. It is called a producer because it produces its own food, using energy from the sun.

6. The animals in a food chain are called consumers. Why do you think they're called consumers?

Animals do not produce their own food so they have to consume (eat) other things to get energy to survive.

7. Have a look at food chains other people in your group made. Are there plants or animals in their chains you could swap to fit into your chain? Swap one or two cards. Draw your new food chain.

Answers will vary.

8. Do you think plants or animals from different food chains affect each other? Explain.

Yes, they do. More than one animal eats each type of plant, each animal eats more than one thing; and each animal is eaten by more than one thing. This means every species takes part in many different food chains. So, if the number of individuals of a species changes in one food chain, then other food chains (of which that species is a part) will also be affected.