

Rules for games

The cards for these games show plants and animals from the Kimberley region of Western Australia. Use them to help you explore feeding relationships between them.

The games are best played in small groups.

Predator/prey pairs (memory)

1. Lay all cards face down, on the table.
2. First player turns over two cards. If they make a prey/predator pair (one eats the other), keep cards. If they're not a pair, turn them over again.
3. Play moves to next person, even if a pair is found.
4. Win by being the first person to get the number of pairs below.
 - 2-player game – 6 pairs wins
 - 3-player game – 5 pairs wins
 - 4-player game – 4 pairs wins

Build a Kimberley food chain

Note: Cards to complete a food chain must be collected in correct order. Find a producer (plant) first to start your food chain. When you have a plant, find an animal that eats your plant, then an animal that eats that animal, and so forth.

1. All players take a board with a food chain template on it (four rectangles side by side, with arrows pointing right, between them).
2. Lay all cards face down, on the table.
3. First player turns over one card. If it fits your food chain, lay it on your board, if not put it back, face down.
4. Win by being the first person to make a food chain of four living things.

Extra challenge

Work as a group to put all the cards into four-card food chains. There are eight chains to make.

Questions

1. Draw a food chain you created.

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

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

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4. Where do plants get nutrients from?

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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?

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

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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.

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

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