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6th, 7th, 8th Grade Reading Mega Bundle

Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

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Food Webs



What is a food web?

A **food web** shows the eating relationship between all the organisms within an **ecosystem**. Arrows in a food web goes from the **organism** being eaten, to the organism eating it.

What are the levels of a food web?

The different levels of a food web are called **trophic levels**. The levels are:

- First trophic level: Producers
- Second trophic level: Consumers
- Third trophic level: Decomposers

What are producers?

Producers are the organisms that make up the first trophic level and are almost always plants. They use the Sun and a process called **photosynthesis** to make their food.

Interesting Fact!

Phytoplankton are very tiny marine organisms that are the major primary producer in most marine (water) ecosystem. The weight of all the phytoplankton is greater than the weight of all the dolphins, whales and fish in all the Oceans!



Food Web – Shows the feeding relationship between all the organisms in an environment.

Ecosystem – A group of living things and their environment.

Organism – A living thing like a plant, animal, etc.

Photosynthesis – A process where plants use the Sun's energy to make their food.

An example of a producer is Kelp. Kelp is a type of seaweed that grows in the water. It uses photosynthesis to make its food.

What are consumers?

Ecobottle Sample

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What are decomposers?

Decomposers are organisms that eat dead organisms. They complete the food web by returning **nutrients** back to the producers. An example of a decomposer is an Earthworm. An Earthworm is a decomposer that eats dead organisms and returns their nutrients back to the soil. They are important because returning nutrients back to the soil helps plants grow.



What is the difference between a food web and a food chain?

A **food chain** shows only one set of feeding relationships in an ecosystem but a food web shows all the food relationships in an ecosystem. Therefore, a food web gives you a better picture about the ecosystem compared to a food chain.

Consumer – Are animals that consume (eat) other organisms.

Decomposer – Are organisms that eat dead organisms, returning their nutrients to the soil.

Nutrients – Parts of food living things need to live and grow.

Food chain – Shows only one set of food relationships in an ecosystem.

Reading Comprehension Questions:

1. What does
2. What is the difference between a consumer and a producer?
3. Out of the
4. Why are
5. If you were trying to understand the feeding relationships in an ecosystem, would you use a food web or a food chain?

Extension Questions:

6. What type of
7. Use the following organisms to create a food web.

Ecobottle Sample



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TWF READING

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