



Sea Turtle Supper

Food chains of Sea Turtles

Essential Question:

- What is a food chain?
- How do sea turtles help keep the ocean food chain in balance?

Audience: Grades K - 5

Learning Objective(s):

- Understand the interactions between different plants and animals in an ecosystem, specifically sea turtles.
- Understand how learning about food chains helps conservation efforts of key species.

North Carolina Standards:

1st Grade

- LS.1.1.1: Obtain, evaluate and communicate information to summarize the needs of different plants and animals.

2nd Grade

- 2-LS4-1: Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.

5th Grade

- LS.5.2.2- Use models to classify organisms within an ecosystem according to the function they serve: producers, consumers, or decomposers.
- LS.5.2.3- Use models to infer the effects that may result from the interconnected relationships of plants and animals to their ecosystem.

Next Generation Science Standards:

Kindergarten

- K-LS1-1- Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.
- K-ESS3-1- Use a model to represent the relationship between the needs of different plants or animals (including humans) and the places they live.

3rd Grade

- 3-LS4-4- Make a claim about the merit of a solution to a problem caused when the environment changes and the types of plants and animals that live there may change.

5th Grade

- 5-PS3-1- Use models to describe that energy in animals' food was once energy from the sun.



Background Information:

A **food chain** is like a line-up of animals and plants where each one eats the next one. It's like a dinner party for animals! For example, in a simple food chain, the sun gives energy to the grass, and then a rabbit eats the grass. After that, a fox might eat the rabbit. So, it goes sun>grass>rabbit>fox. Each of these creatures depends on the one before it for food, and that's how they survive in nature. Food chains help us understand who eats who in the animal kingdom!

The food chain always starts with the sun. Then goes to a plant also known as a **producer**. The animal that eats the plant is called a **consumer**. Animals in the food chain can eat different types of foods such as just plants (**herbivore**), just animals (**carnivore**) or plants and animals (**omnivore**). The animal that eats the other animals is called the **predator** whereas the animal that is getting eaten is called the **prey**.

All of the plants and animals in the food chain are important and depend on each other for food and survival.

Vocabulary

- Food chain:

- Producer:

- Consumer:

- Carnivore:

- Herbivore:

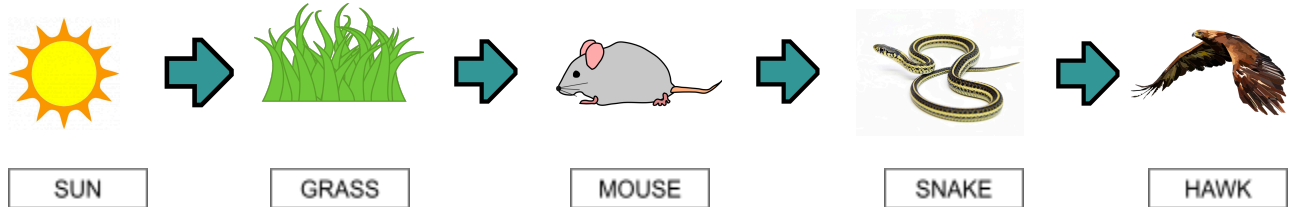
- Omnivore:

- Predator:

- Prey:

Pre-Content

Food Chain



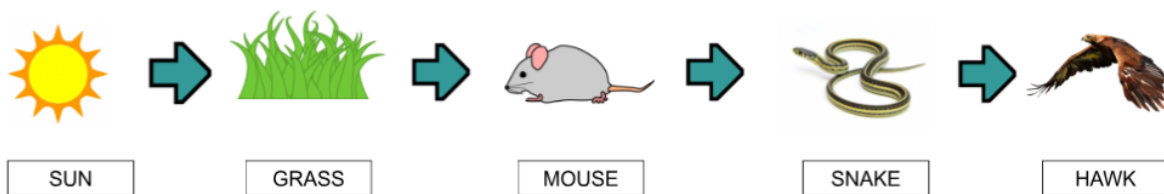
Use the food chain picture above to answer the following questions.

1. Name the living thing in the food chain that is a **producer**.
2. Name the living things in the food chain that are **consumers**.
3. Which living things does the hawk eat?
4. Which living thing does the mouse eat?
5. What is eaten by the snake?

Teacher Answer Sheet - Pre/Post-Content:

Vocabulary

- **Food chain:** A line-up of who-eats-who in nature. It shows the order of animals and plants where one gets eaten by the next.
- **Producer:** A plant- make their own food from the sun, water and air. They are first in the food chain.
- **Consumer:** An animal- they eat plants or other animals to get their energy. They come after the producers in a food chain.
- **Carnivore:** Animals that eat other animals.
- **Herbivore:** Animals that eat only plants.
- **Omnivore:** Animals that eat both plants and animals.
- **Predator:** An animal that hunts and eats other animals.
- **Prey:** The animals that get hunted and eaten by predator.



Use the food chain picture above to answer the following questions.

1. Name the living thing in the food chain that is a **producer**. **Grass**
2. Name the living things in the food chain that are **consumers**. **Mouse, snake hawk**
3. Which living things does the hawk eat? **Snake**
4. Which living thing does the mouse eat? **Grass**
5. What is eaten by the snake? **Mouse**

Post-Content Questions

1. What did you learn about sea turtles and what they eat?
2. Draw a CIRCLE around the **producers** from the lesson and a SQUARE around the **consumers** from the lesson.



Clams



Jellyfish



Mackerel



Phytoplankton



Seagrass



Juvenile Green Sea Turtle

3. List the foods you ate for dinner last night.
4. Create a food chain using what you ate for dinner.

Post-Content Extension

Have students research the issues sea turtles are facing in relation to their food chains/food webs. For example: Marine Debris. And write what could be done to help