Build a Food Web Activity

As you have learned, a food web is a more accurate depiction of how energy moves through a community of organisms. Food Chains show only a single set of energy transfers, ignoring that many organisms obtain energy from many different sources, and in turn may provide energy to many different organisms.

In this activity, you will be building a food web for our local community. You have been provided with images of a number of organisms that are native to the area.



Directions:

- 1. You will need a lab partner. This activity is designed for groups of two students.
- 2. Cut out the animal icons from the paper provided. It is recommended that you do **NOT** glue or tape your organisms until you are confident in the manner that you have organized your food web.
- 3. On the construction paper provided, organize the icons. Establish as many energy-transfer relationships as possible. If you are not certain if an organism might be someone else's food source, feel free to use your book for research (page 410).
- 4. Using a straight edge (ruler), draw lines showing the energy transfer relationships on your paper. Remember: The arrowhead should point AT the organism that is **CONSUMING** the other organism.
- 5. Along each line connecting two organisms, identify the relationship that exists between the two:
 - a. Producer -- Primary consumer
 - b. Primary consumer ---> Secondary consumer
 - c. Secondary consumer ---> Tertiary consumer
 - d. Consumer --- Decomposer
 - e. Producer ---> Decomposer
- 6. When you submit your paper, be certain to have the name of BOTH students in your group listed in the upper-right hand corner of the paper.



Sunlight