



Food Chain Activities

Agape Center for Environmental
Education

Food Chain: Stack Attack (K-5)

This activity focuses on food chains that can occur between various organisms.

Supplies:

- Cups
- Pictures of many different animals
- Glue/tape
- Sharpie

Directions:

- Pass out 6 or more cups to each student.
- Have them each pick out different organisms that make a food chain (one organism per cup).
- Glue/tape pictures of animals onto the upside down cups and write the organism's name on the cup as well.
- Use the cups to demonstrate the food chain by stacking the cups in the appropriate order.
- Have students see how their cup chain can work with other cup chains.

Addition:

Add information about the animals on the cup as well.
For example: producer/consumer/decomposer, habitat, range, etc.



Higher Levels To Address Biomagnification:

- Tape a red piece of tape in a few cups, tell students not to look into their cups.
- Have them create a chain with the available cups.
- After a chain has been made, see how many pieces of red paper are in that chain.
- Discuss how that top predator now has multiple pieces of paper, representing biomagnification in food chains.

Green Note: Try not to use Styrofoam cups as these don't biodegrade well. It can actually stick around for well over 1,000 years, some estimates even say 1,000,000 years!

Food Chain/Web:

Food Chain War (K-8)

This activity focuses on food chains that can occur between herbivores, omnivores, carnivores, decomposers, and plants.

Supplies:

Printable cards (recommended that these are printed on cardstock/glued to construction paper and laminated for multi-use).

Directions:

- Split the deck of cards evenly between two players.
- Each flip over the top card in their personal deck and lay it down in front of them.
- Decide which card would beat the other if they were to interact with one another. The winner takes both cards and adds them to the bottom of the deck.
 - In case of a tie (two carnivores/herbivores/plants, etc.), flip over three cards face down, and a fourth card face up. Whoever wins with the fourth card keeps all the cards.
- Decomposers beat all other cards (If there is a tie, treat this the same as other ties).
 - Play in one of two ways:
 1. The animal has to actually eat the other card or it is a tie.
 2. The card that is higher on the food chain wins. Use the following order: Decomposer, Carnivore, Omnivore, Herbivore, Plant.
 - The game is won when one person is holding all of the cards.

Carnivore



Hawk

Carnivore



Snake

Deck Information:

47 Card Total

- 8 Carnivore (red cards)
- 16 Herbivore (light green cards)
- 8 Plant (dark green cards)
- 13 Omnivore (light blue cards)
- 2 Decomposers (purple cards)

Additional Challenge:

The card only wins if it would actually eat the other card in real life.

Carnivore



Wolf

Carnivore



Wolf Spider

Carnivore



Tree Frog

Carnivore



Little Brown Bat

Carnivore



Fence Lizard

Carnivore



Barred Owl

Herbivore



Mayfly Nymph

Herbivore



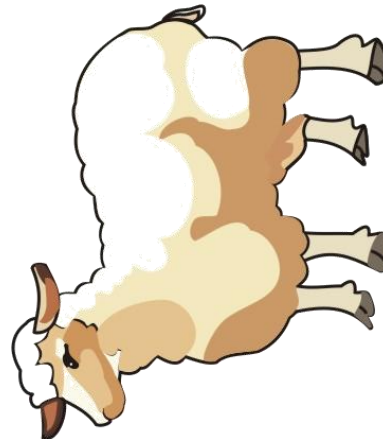
Butterfly

Herbivore



Hummingbird

Herbivore



Sheep

Herbivore



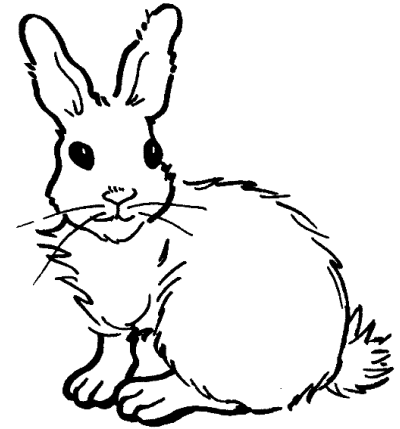
Honey Bee

Herbivore



Cow

Herbivore



Rabbit

Herbivore



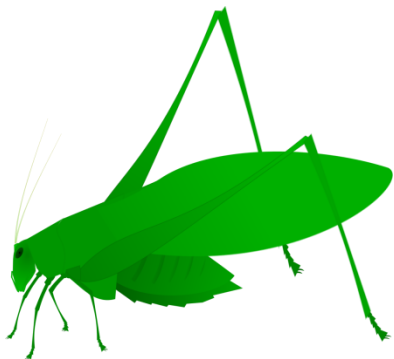
Elk

Herbivore



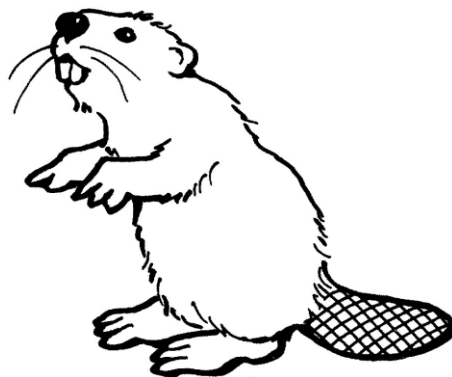
Snail

Herbivore



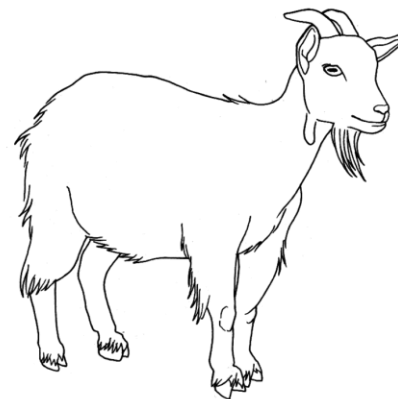
Katydid

Herbivore



Beaver

Herbivore



Goat

Herbivore



Horse

Herbivore



Bison

Herbivore



Catepillar

Herbivore



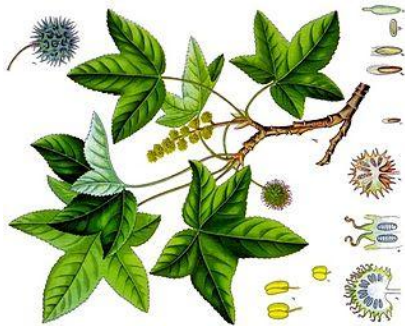
Manatee

Plant



Oak Tree

Plant



Sweetgum Tree

Plant



Maple Tree

Plant



Pine Tree

Plant



Grass

Plant



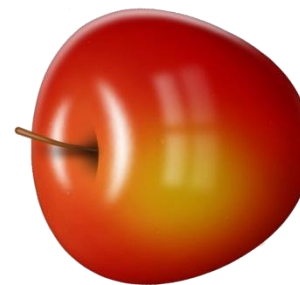
Sunflower

Plant



Raspberry Bush

Plant



Apple Tree

Omnivore



Raccoon

Omnivore



Canada Goose

Omnivore



Painted Bunting

Omnivore



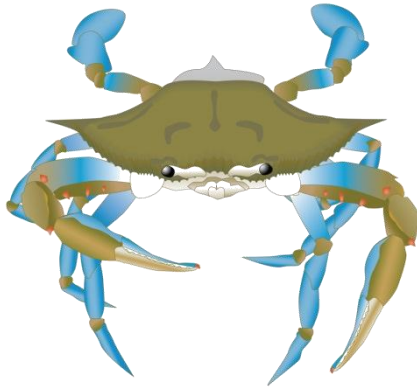
Bear

Omnivore



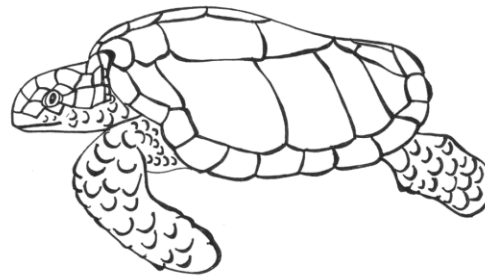
Northern Cardinal

Omnivore



Blue Crab

Omnivore



Loggerhead Sea
Turtle

Omnivore



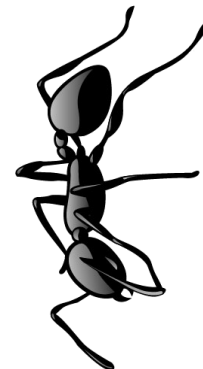
Skunk

Omnivore



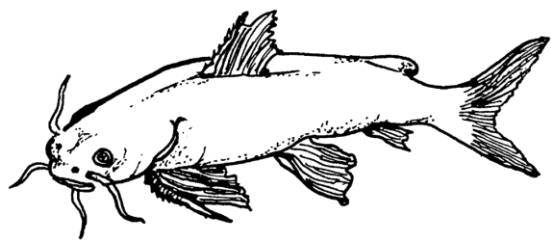
River Otter

Omnivore



Ant

Omnivore



Catfish

Omnivore



Red-bellied
Woodpecker

Omnivore



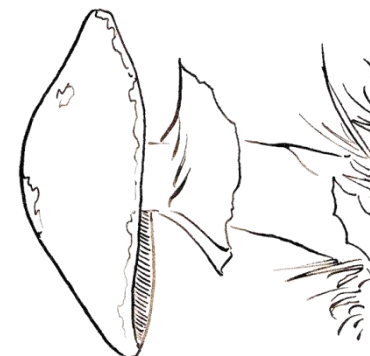
Crayfish

Decomposer



Earthworm

Decomposer



Mushroom

Food Chain:

Food Chain War Examples

