

## Study Guide 13.4: Food Chains and Food Webs

### KEY CONCEPT

Food chains and food webs model the flow of energy in an ecosystem.

### VOCABULARY

food chain	herbivore	carnivore	omnivore
detritivore	decomposer	specialist	generalist
trophic level	food web		

**MAIN IDEA:** A food chain is a model that shows a sequence of feeding relationships.

**Complete the following sentence with the correct terms.**

1. A food chain follows the connection between one \_\_\_\_\_ and a single chain of \_\_\_\_\_ within an \_\_\_\_\_.

**Choose the correct term from the box below to fit each description.**

carnivore	herbivore	secondary consumer
decomposer	omnivore	tertiary consumer
detritivore	primary consumer	trophic levels

2. I eat only plants. I am a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I eat only other animals. I am a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I eat both plants and animals. I am a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
5. I eat dead organic matter. I am a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
6. I break down organic matter into simpler compounds. I am a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
7. I am the first consumer above the producer level. I am a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
8. I am a carnivore that eats herbivores. I am a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
9. I am a carnivore that eats other carnivores. I am a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The levels of nourishment in a food chain are called \_\_\_\_\_.

**MAIN IDEA:** A food web shows a complex network of feeding relationships.

11. How is a food web different from a food chain?

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12. What happens to energy at each link in a food web?

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13. What type of organism provides the base of a food web?

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**Vocabulary Check**

14. Use your knowledge of the words *special* and *general* to explain the diets of a specialist and a generalist.

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15.

Word Part	Meaning
herba	vegetation
carnus	flesh
omnis	all

**Use the word origins to explain the diets of each of the following consumers: herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores.**

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