

# Food Chains and Webs

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## Glossary

**adaptation** special body feature or behavior that helps an organism stay alive

**camouflage** adaptation that helps an organism blend in with its surroundings

**carnivore** consumer that eats only animals

**community** all the populations living in one area

**consumer** organism that eats other organisms in a food chain

**decomposer** organism that feeds on and breaks down dead organisms

**diversity** the number of different species in an area

**ecosystem** all the interacting living and nonliving things in one area

**endangered** in danger of becoming extinct

**energy pyramid** shows how energy moves through a food web

**environment** everything around a living thing

**extinct** species that has disappeared from Earth

**food chain** shows how organisms get food and energy

**food web** all the food chains in an ecosystem

**habitat** the area in which an organism lives

**herbivore** consumer that eats only plants

**host** organism that a parasite lives in or on

**interact** to act with each other

**mimicry** adaptation in which an organism looks like another organism or thing

**nutrients** things in food that organisms need to live

**omnivore** consumer that eats either plants or animals

**organism** living thing

**parasite** organism that lives in or on another organism and gets its food from it

**population** all the members of a species living in one area

**predator** animal that kills and eats other animals

**prey** animal that is killed and eaten by other animals

**producer** organism that makes its own food and serves as a source of food for other organisms

**scavenger** consumer that eats dead plants or animals

**species** group of organisms that are the same