Eating and Digestion

Learning Objective:

To be able to construct and interpret a variety of food chains.

herbivore

carnivore

omnivore

How would you explain what these terms mean to someone who didn't know?

herbivore	carnivore	omnivore
An animal that eats plants.	An animal that eats other animals.	An animal that eats both other animals and plants.





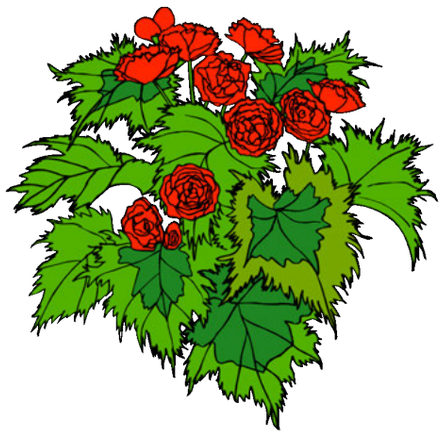




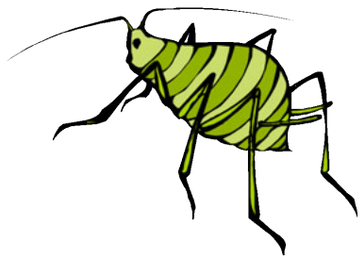




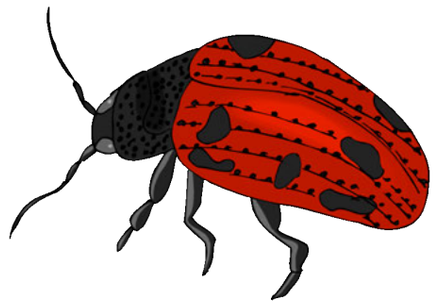


Rosebush



Aphid



Ladybird

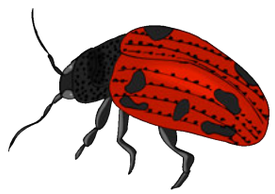
Crow

What do you think this diagram is showing?

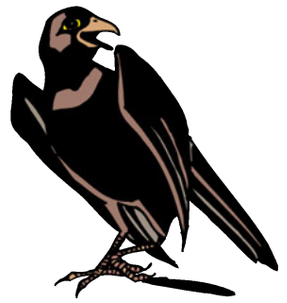
This diagram is showing a FOOD CHAIN. All the plants and animals that live together in an ecosystem are linked together by what they feed on. They rely on each other for survival. Food chains show how the organisms are linked through diet.

Rosebush

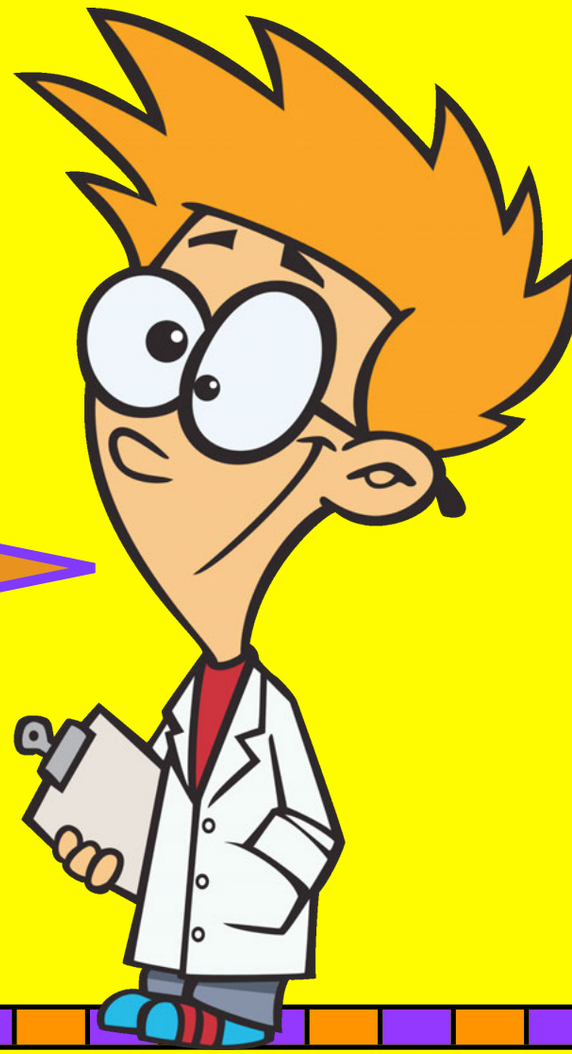
Aphid



Ladybird



Crow



This food chain is showing that the aphid eats the rosebush, the ladybird eats the aphid, and the crow eats the ladybird.

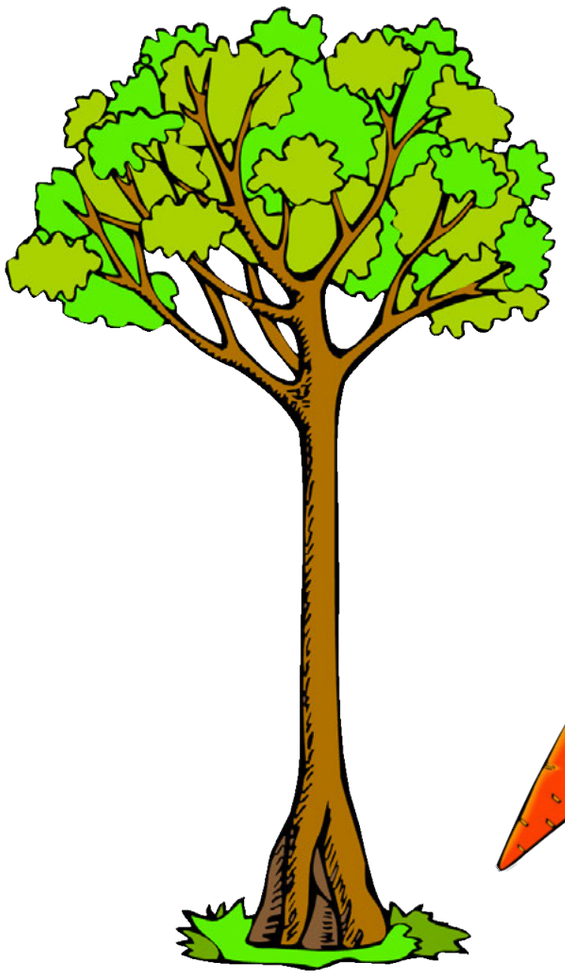
Food chains usually start with a green plant as plants are able to produce their own energy from the sunlight. For this reason, plants at the beginning of a food chain are called PRODUCERS.

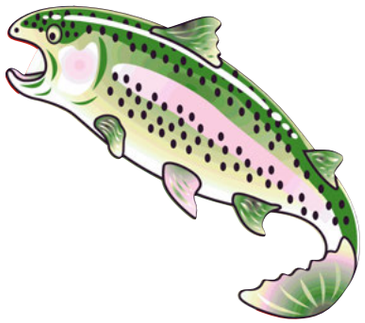
Did you know...?

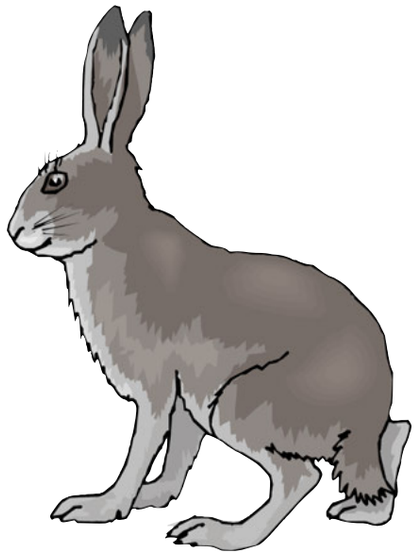
The scientific name for the process a plant uses to change sunlight to energy is PHOTOSYNTHESIS.

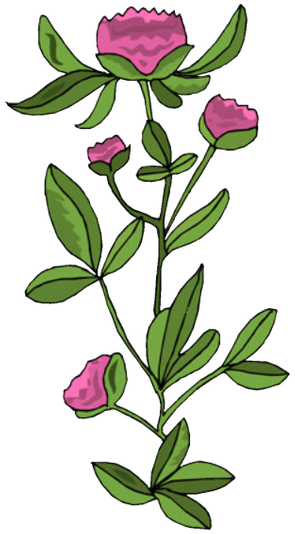
Anything that eats a PRODUCER is called a CONSUMER because it consumes the energy of the plants. Consumers also eat other animals.

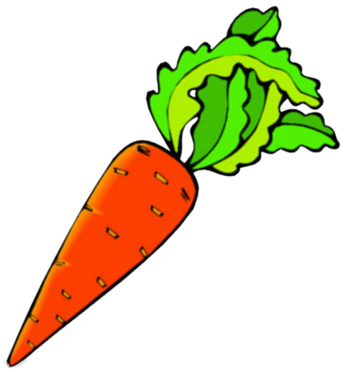
Which of these is a producer and which is a consumer?

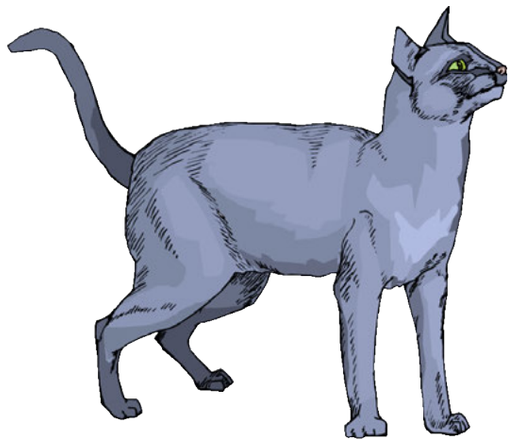


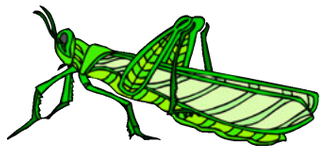


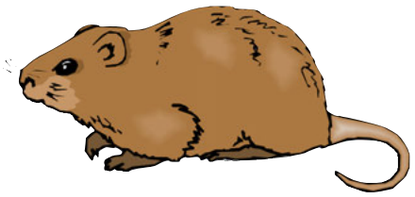


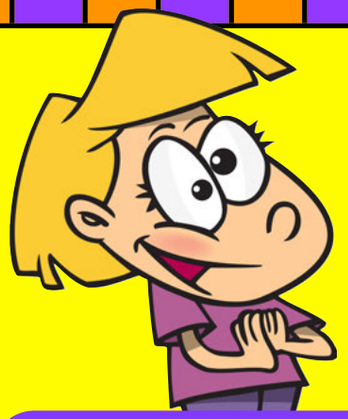






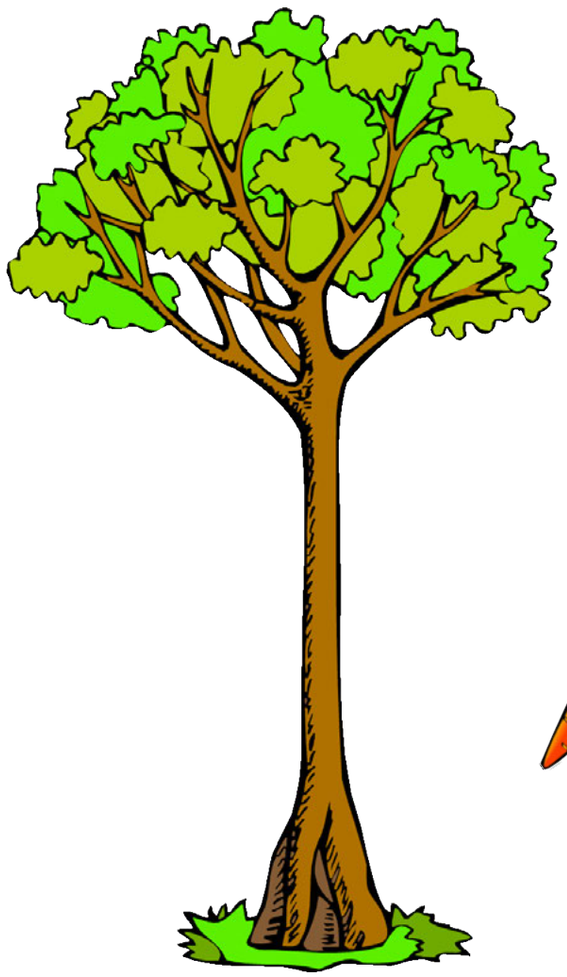


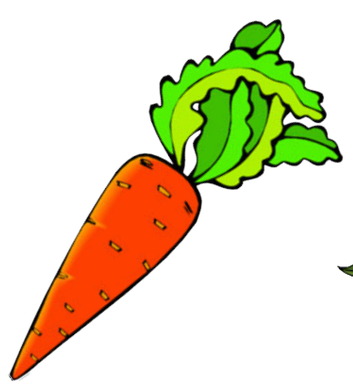


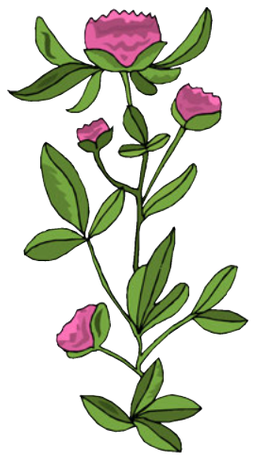


Did you get those right?

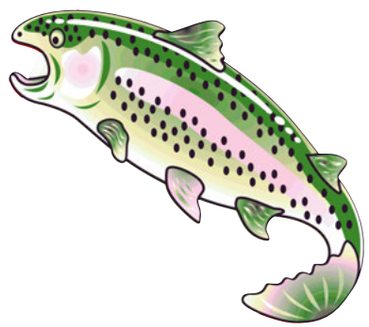
Producers

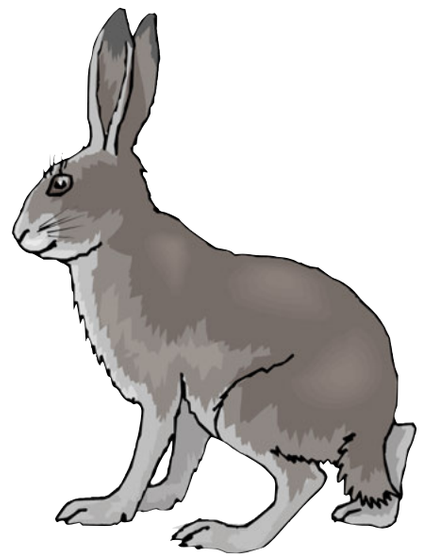


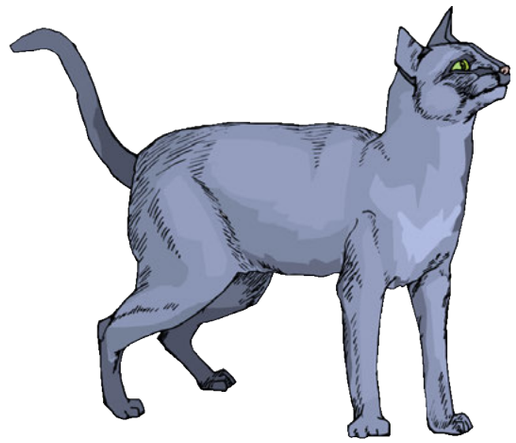


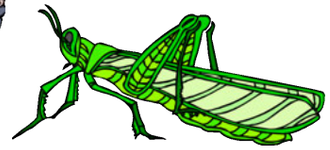


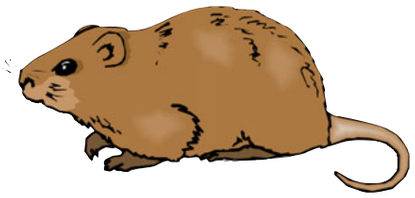
Consumers

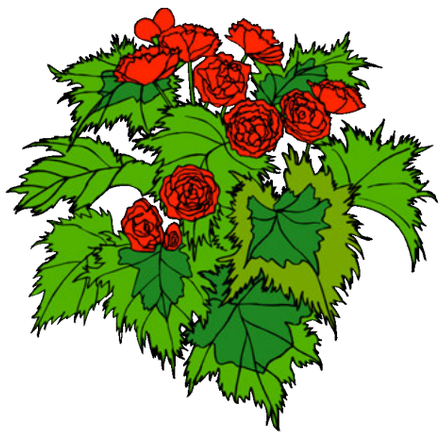




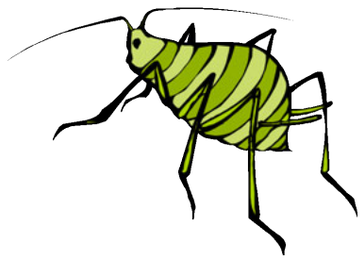




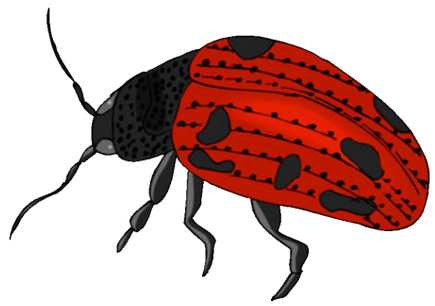




Rosebush



Aphid

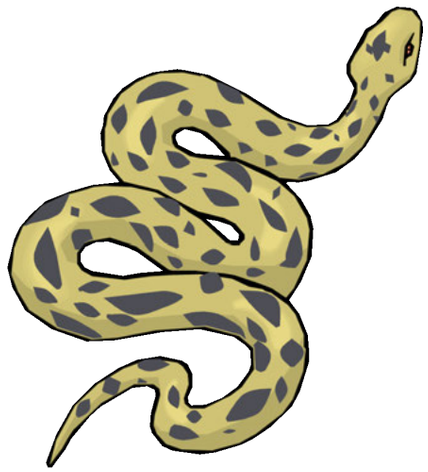


Ladybird

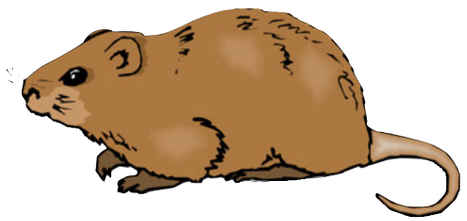
Crow

The arrows in a food chain show the direction of ENERGY. The arrows in this diagram are showing that the rosebush gives energy to the aphid, the aphid gives energy to the ladybird, and the ladybird gives energy to the crow.

Can you organise these organisms into a food chain? Don't forget the arrows!



Snake

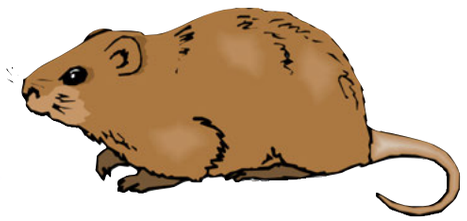


Mouse

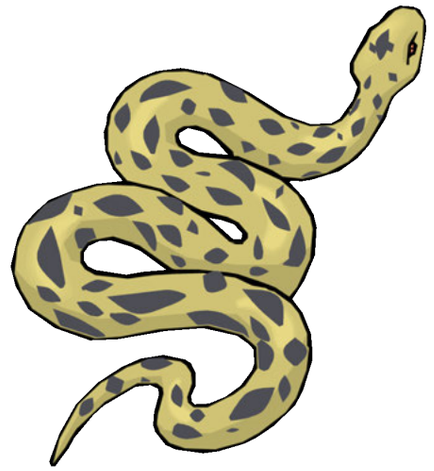
Acorn

Eagle

Acorn



Mouse

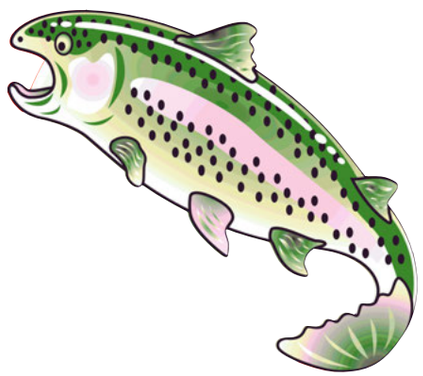


Snake

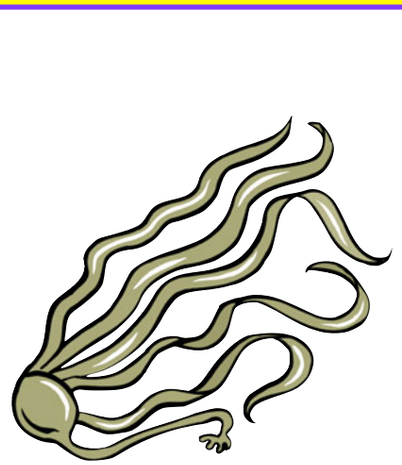
Eagle

Did you get that right?
Can you explain what this food chain shows?

Now try these organisms. Can you organise them into a food chain?

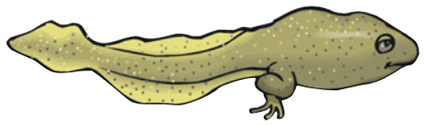


Trout

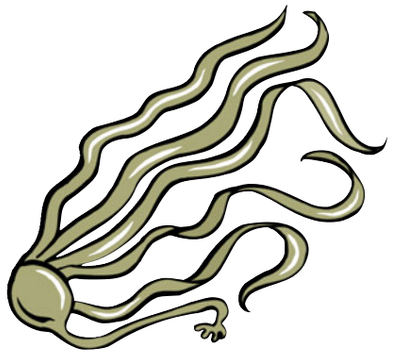


Algae

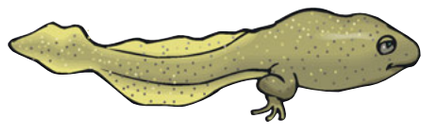
Heron



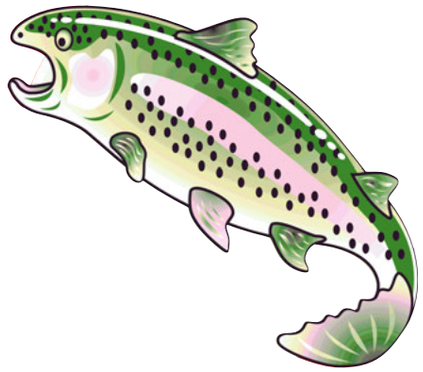
Tadpole



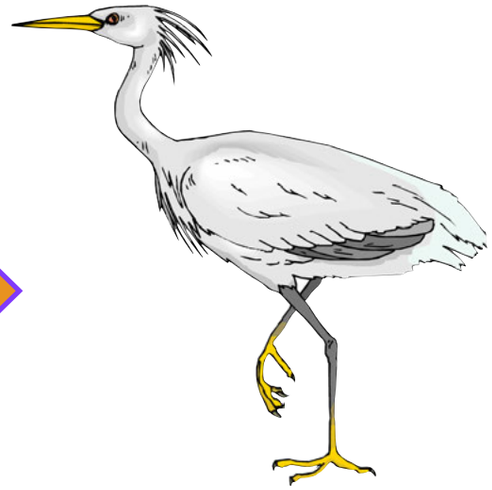
Algae



Tadpole



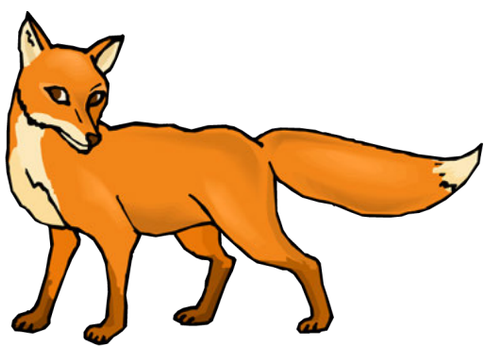
Trout



Heron

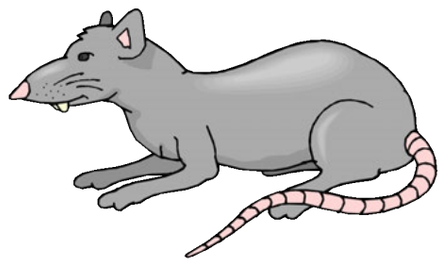
Did you get that right?
Can you explain what this food chain shows?

Let’s do one more! Can you organise these organisms into a food chain?



Fox

Snail

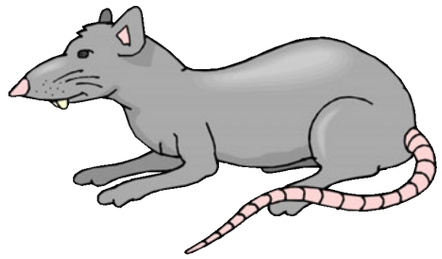


Rat

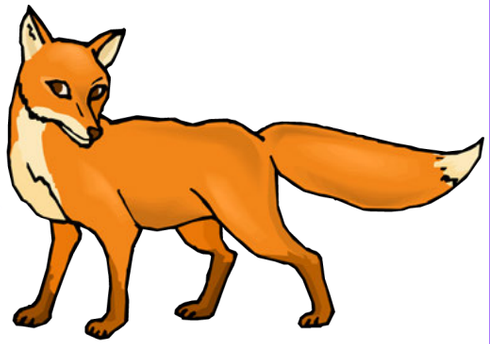
Apple

Apple

Snail



Rat



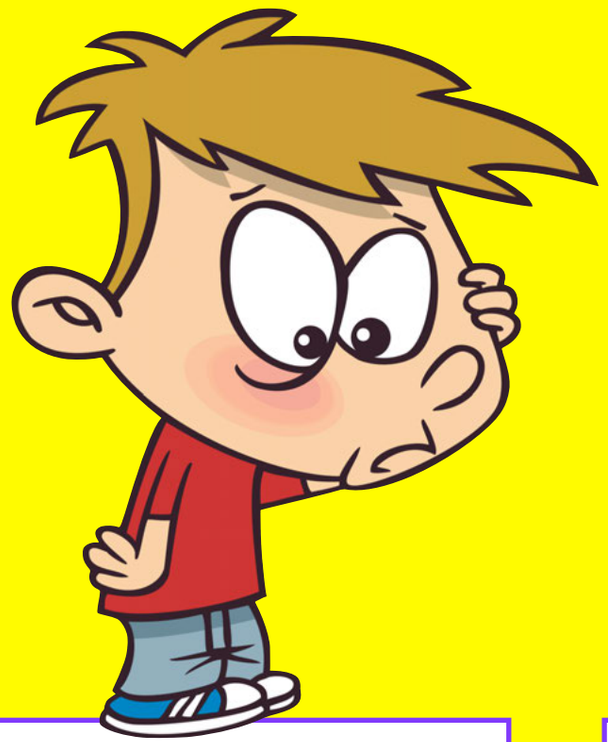
Fox

Did you get that right?
Can you explain what this food chain shows?

Well done everyone!

Who is ready to go and try making some food chains of their own?

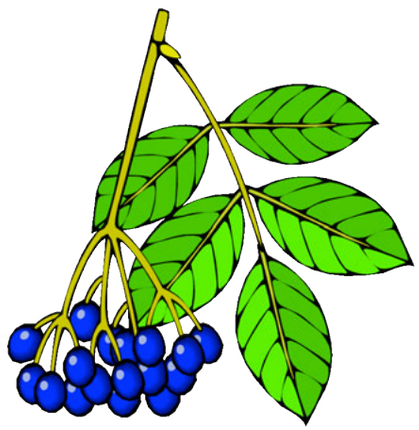
Plenary:



What would happen if one of these organisms were to be taken out of the food chain?

What would the consumer eat instead?

How might this affect the whole ecosystem?



Elderberries

Robin

Owl

Hawk