

**Title:** Food Web

**Subject:** Biology

**Grade Level:** 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 2 x50-minute periods

**Objective:**

Students will understand the natural predator-prey relationships that exist inside a specific ecosystem. Students will also be able to place the animals and relationships into natural, sequential order.

**Method:**

- Begin a discussion on predator-prey relationships by talking about what animals eat. Pick a top predator (wolf, jaguar, lion, etc), and discuss its habitats, what it relies on for food and classify this animal as carnivore, herbivore or omnivore. Next discuss one of the animals that the top predator consumes and answer the same questions (habitat, food, classification, etc).
- Put the animals into a food chain or web using the Predator-Prey diagram. As a class, pick one of the top predators found in the ecosystem you are focusing on. Research the animal, and research the animals that create the prey models of the chain.
- Connect the animals to their predators, making sure to use arrows to show what consumes each animal.

**Common Core State Anchor Standards:**

**Key Ideas and Details**

1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

**Craft and Structure**

4. Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone

### **Integration of Knowledge and Ideas**

7. Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

### **Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity**

10. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

### **Lesson Extensions:**

Have students individually complete a series of food chains/webs for the ecosystem that they live in.

## Predator-Prey Diagram

Fill the boxes with the name of an animal that lives in the ecosystem you are studying. Use arrows to connect the boxes to show what each animal eats. You may have to use more than one arrow from each animal. Make sure that you put the top predator at the top of the web.

