



Make a Pond Food Web



Learning Intention

- Learn to create food webs and understand that plants and creatures in a habitat are interdependent.

National Curriculum Skills

Science Interdependence of living organisms in those two environments and their representation as food chains.

ESDGC The natural environment.

Activity Outline

- * Find out about a pond organism.
- * Conduct independent research.
- * Discuss habitats.
- * Create a large class food web.

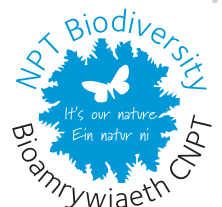
Resources

String!

A classroom cleared of chairs and tables.

The pictures from Pond Lesson 4 (Make a Pond Food Chain).

Internet access - e.g. Naturegrid or Learnanytime.



Make a Pond Food Web

Lesson Outline

What is a food chain?

- Start by reviewing the food chains that pupils have created. Explain that many animals are part of more than one food chain and eat more than one kind of food in order to meet their food and energy requirements. The interconnected food chains form a food web.
- If you wish, give the class a list of creatures and allow the pupils to conduct some independent research using books. The websites in the resources on the previous page are a good place to start if you have a class whiteboard!
- Clear the classroom of tables and chairs! Have string and scissors ready. Sit the pupils in a circle around the room and allow them to share information about their creature.
- Ask the class if anyone has an organism in the same food *chain*. Give the pupils the string and stretch it between them. Continue getting pupils to join the food chain until there are about 4 organisms.
- Ask if anyone was left out of the food chain. Ask new pupils to join the food chain, and continue to create a tangled mess in the classroom!
- Introduce the idea of a food web, tangled food chains that show how organisms are *interdependent*.

Why is a food web better than a food chain?

What would happen if a consumer became extinct? Would it matter if it was a carnivore or herbivore?

Are there more producers or consumers?

What would happen to the food web if the habitat was damaged by pollution?

What would happen if one of the producers became extinct?