

Food Chains



Subject	– Environmental Studies,
Year	– 4-8 years
Key Stage	– 2 & 3

Pre Activity – Chompin Chain

Objective – To reinforce the understanding of a foodchain.

Activity Description – Think of a simple food chain eg ‘ seaweed, fish, shark. Allocate each child an animal or plant to draw a picture or make a model of. The producer should be smaller than the primary consumer which should in turn be smaller than the secondary consumer. (Perhaps children could use paper mache models and make their food chain into a set of Russian dolls).

Background – Simple food chains usually involve bigger animals eating smaller animals. The above activity should help to show this, and will be a valuable learning tool.

Post Visit Activity – Food Webs!

Objective – to discover how food chains may link together to make a food web.

Activity Description – Allocate each child an animal, which can be worn on a sticker or around their neck. 1 person should be allocated the sun, and should be given a few lengths of string. The object of the game is to make lots of food chains along each piece of string. Once the food chains are complete cross links are considered e.g- could the big fish in chain 1 eat any of the smaller fish in any of the other chains. By physically creating webs in a fun way this will reinforce understanding.

Background – There are very rarely simple food chains. Most animals form part of food webs, to allow them to adapt to changing environments.

Further Resources -

www.geography4kids.com

www.ecokids.earthday.ca/pub/index.cfm

www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/homework/foodchains.htm