

Food Chains and Habitats

Summary

All living things need food. Animals eat plants, other animals, or plants and animals. Plants make their own food. The roots take in water. The stem carries the water to the leaves. The leaves use sunlight, air, and water to make food. When plants make food, they give off oxygen. Plants also start food chains. Animals eat plants. Other animals eat the plant eaters, and so on. Every habitat has food chains. In the Antarctic, plankton use sunlight to make food. Tiny krill eat the plankton. Penguins eat the krill. Orca whales eat the penguins. This is an Antarctic food chain.

Before Reading

Take a Picture Walk

Build background for the book by taking a picture walk with children. Discuss the pictures and preview the key vocabulary and concepts. Invite children to share what they know about the foods plants and animals need.

Vocabulary

food chain, marsh, oxygen, rain forest

Comprehension Skill: Draw Conclusions

Say: Sometimes when we read, we can use what we already know along with what we are reading to draw conclusions. What conclusions can you draw about food chains?

During Reading

Think Critically

Have children answer the *What Did You Learn?* questions located on the inside back cover of their book.

1. What three things do green leaves need to make food? Green plants need light from the Sun, air, and water, to make food.

2. What does a penguin eat in the Antarctic? Penguins eat krill, small shrimp-like animals.

After Reading

Writing in Science

Some animals eat other animals. On your own paper, write to tell which animals in this book eat other animals. Use words from the book as you write.

Organize Information

Graphic Organizer: Draw Conclusions
Have children complete the Draw Conclusions chart on the BLM for this Leveled Reader to use what they have learned about food chains to draw a conclusion about what would happen if one part of the food chain changes.

Related Resources

Vocabulary Cards	Equipment Kit
Every Student Learns	Activity Flipchart
Quick Study	LabZone
Big Book of Science Songs and CD	
Graphic Organizer Transparencies	
Quick Activity Transparency	
www.pearsonsuccessnet.com	

Write your answers.

1. Where do animals get their food?
Animals get food by eating plants, other animals, or plants and animals.
2. What do plants make that all living things need?
Plants make oxygen.
3. How are living things connected?
Living things are connected by a food chain.
4. Living things are connected in food chains.
What happens if one part of a food chain changes?
Use the graphic organizer to help you.

Possible answer:

Draw Conclusions

I know

Living things are connected in food chains.



My conclusion

If one part changes, the other connected parts will change, too.