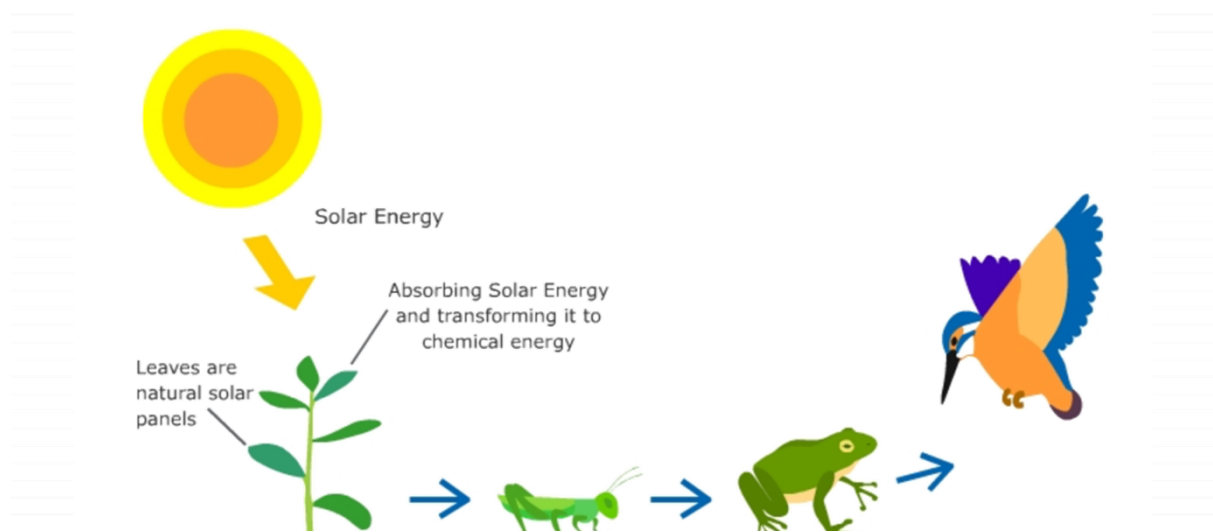




## FOOD CHAINS

Most of us enjoy eating and taking the **calories** and **nutrition** from the food we eat is important for life. Eating food gives us energy and this energy powers everything we do, from playing a favourite sport to studying or playing a game. It helps us fight off illness and helps us think. It makes us grow and keeps our hearts beating and the blood circulating through our bodies. Without energy from food, we could not live. This applies to every living thing on earth. Microbes, beetles, mice, hawks, flowers, salmon, grass, trees ... if it's alive, it needs energy. Energy passes from one animal to another as they eat plants or one another. This flow of energy from one living thing to another is called a 'food chain'.

### FOOD CHAIN



Food chains begin with a **producer**. This is generally a plant, who produces its own food using energy from the sun.

#### EXAMPLES OF PRODUCERS

Grass, leaves, dandelions and seaweed.

After the producer, comes a **consumer**. A consumer generally eats plants.

#### EXAMPLES OF CONSUMERS

grasshopper, worm, caterpillar and ladybird.

You can have more than one consumer in a food chain. The first consumer we call the primary consumer and the second consumer we call a secondary consumer. E.g. a caterpillar would be the primary consumer and then the caterpillar could be eaten by a robin, which we call the secondary consumer.

Finally, we have the **predator**. A predator eats a consumer.

#### EXAMPLES OF PREDATORS

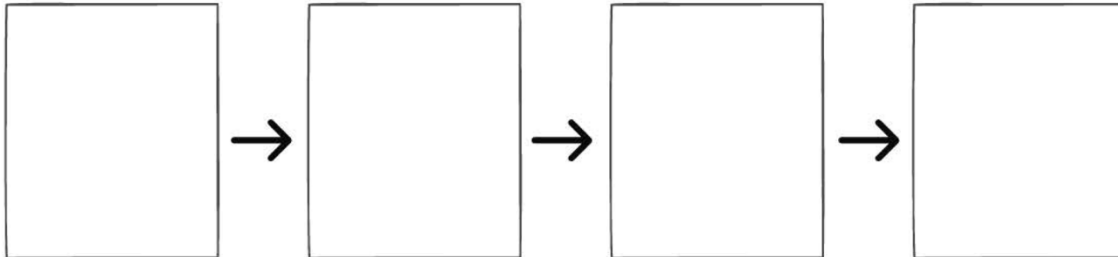
Hawk, lion, snake and wolf.

# FOOD CHAINS

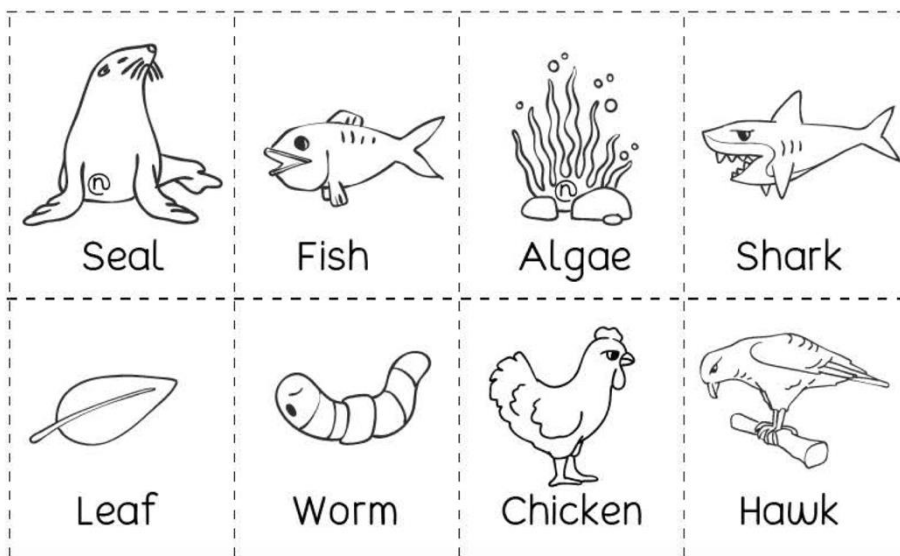
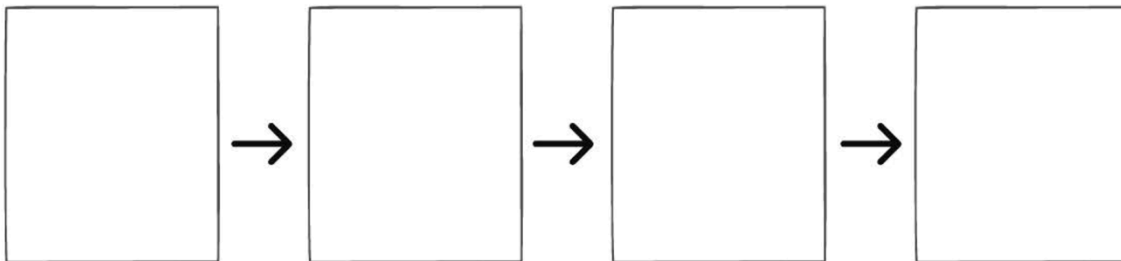
Your Task:

Use the images to create 2 food chains.

Food chain in water



Food chain on land



**Challenge:** Create your own food chain

