

IS IT A **FOOD WEB** OR A **FOOD CHAIN?**



by Emily Sohn



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Words in **bold** are in the glossary.

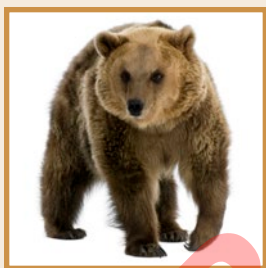
WHAT IS A FOOD CHAIN?

A bird lands on a feeder. It eats seeds. Now it can fly away. It can build a nest and care for its chicks. The seeds gave the bird energy. Animals eat food for energy. You need energy to breathe and move.

Energy moves through the living world. Think about the bird. It eats seeds, which give it energy. Then a bigger animal eats the bird. Now, the bigger animal has energy. This is a food chain. Food chains and food webs show how energy moves between plants, animals, and the sun.



Let's do an investigation! Gather index cards or small pieces of paper. Look at the photos on these pages. Write each thing on its own card. Make 10 cards with just an arrow [—>] on them.



bear



berries



mushrooms



fox



cat



mouse



worm



beetle



grass



owl



seeds



bird



person



grasshopper

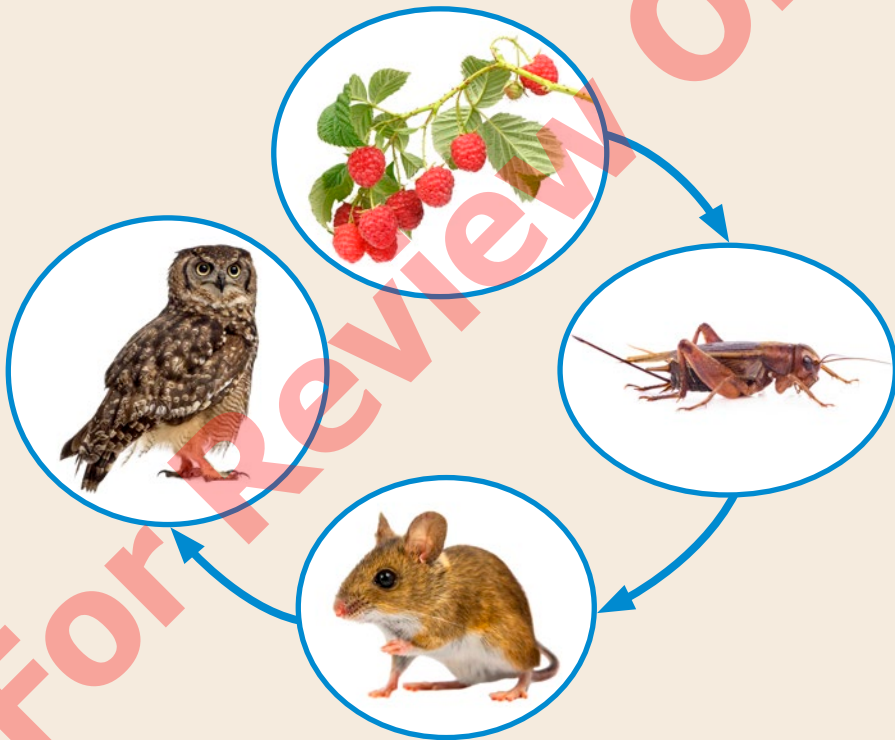


deer

How do living things get energy?
Make pairs with your cards. Start with
a plant. Next comes an arrow. Then,
choose an animal that eats that plant.



How many pairs can you make?
Now try to make a chain of three.
What is the longest chain you can
make? Which animals eat more than
one type of food?



Keep your cards close by. You will
look at them as you read this book.