

Woodland Foodchains

Developed with teachers at Tolworth Junior School in Kingston upon Thames in 2000.

The webaddress for this activity is;

<http://www.collaborativelearning.org/woodlandfoodchains.pdf>

Last updated 13th February 2008

This activity has now had pictures added. There are pictures of woodland animals and descriptions of what they eat which can be used for matching (whole class or in groups) or for reference while playing the connect four game. We would welcome additions and corrections since our sources were not always consistent.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Project Director: Stuart Scott

Supporting a cooperative network of teaching professionals throughout the European Union to develop and disseminate accessible interactive teaching materials in all subject areas and for all ages.

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF BASIC PRINCIPLES BEHIND OUR TEACHING ACTIVITIES:

The project is a teacher network, and a non-profit making educational trust. Our main aim is to develop and disseminate classroom tested examples of effective group strategies that promote talk across all phases and subjects. We hope they will inspire you to develop and use similar strategies in other topics and curriculum areas. We want to encourage you to change them and adapt them to your classroom and students. We run teacher workshops, swapshops and conferences throughout the European Union. The project posts online many activities in all subject areas. An online newsletter is also updated regularly.

*These activities are influenced by current thinking about the role of language in learning. They are designed to help children learn through talk and active learning in small groups. They work best in non selective classes where children in need of language or learning support are integrated. They are well suited for the development of speaking and listening . They provide teachers opportunities for assessment of speaking and listening.

*They support differentiation by placing a high value on what children can offer to each other on a particular topic, and also give children the chance to respect each other's views and formulate shared opinions which they can disseminate to peers. By helping them to take ideas and abstract concepts, discuss, paraphrase and move them about physically, they help to develop thinking skills.

*They give children the opportunity to participate in their own words and language in their own time without pressure. Many activities can be tried out in mother tongue and afterwards in English. A growing number of activities are available in more than one language, not translated, but mixed, so that you may need more than one language to complete the activity.

*They encourage study skills in context, and should therefore be used with a range of appropriate information books which are preferably within reach in the classroom.

*They are generally adaptable over a wide age range because children can bring their own knowledge to an activity and refer to books at an appropriate level. The activities work like catalysts.

*All project activities were planned and developed by teachers working together, and the main reason they are disseminated is to encourage teachers to work more effectively with each other inside and outside the classroom. They have made it possible for mainstream and language and learning support teachers to share an equal role in curriculum delivery. They should be adapted to local conditions. In order to help us keep pace with curriculum changes, please send any new or revised activities back to the project, so that we can add them to our lists of materials.

<http://www.collaborativelearning.org/woodlandfoodchains.pdf>

Woodland Foodchains



Grass Snake

My favourite food is frogs, but I also eat newts, toads and small mammals. I live in grass, but can swim. As a result I can catch tadpoles and small fish.



Hedgehog

I usually eat at night and rest in a quiet place during the day. My favourite food is insects including their pupae and larvae. I also eat slugs, beetles, earthworms, snails and vegetables.



Mole

I can't see very well, but my hearing and sense of smell are very strong. My favourite food is earthworms. I store them in my tunnels. I also eat insects, myriapods and molluscs.



Shrew

I have to spend most of my life looking for food. I have a long snout for rooting about, and a very sharp front tooth. I eat beetles, earthworms and snails. I also eat plant material and tree leaves.



Wood Mouse

My favourite food is seeds. I store them in my underground nest to eat in the winter. I will also eat the larvae of butterflies and wasps.

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Squirrel

My favourite food is acorns. I eat other nuts, hard fruit, fungi and grains. I make stores of food for the winter. Unfortunately, I cannot always remember where I have put them.



Rabbit

My favourite food is grass. I also eat other green crops. I can eat 180 kg of food in a year. I have lived in Britain for 1000 years.



Bat

I eat moths and butterflies. I can catch them while they are flying. I work at night because my hearing is very good. Look at my big ears.



Toad

I like to eat in the evening. I eat beetles, ants, worms, snails, slugs and insects, including their larvae. I have a sticky bit at the end of my long tongue.



Frog

I eat insects, snails and slugs. I also like woodlice, and butterfly and moth caterpillars. I have a long tongue to catch flying insects.

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Badger

I eat everything I can find. I am very fond of rabbits. I will eat insects and their larvae, slugs, snails, earthworms, fruit, nuts and grass.



Fox

My favourite food is rabbits, but I will also eat birds, mice and even a small sheep or deer, if I can catch one. My city relatives eat food from dustbins.



Sparrowhawk

My favourite food is small birds. I will also eat small rabbits, mice or other mammals. I have good eyesight, and can see them from a long way up.



Thrush

My favourite food is snails, because my beak is designed to break their shells by knocking them on a hard stone. I also like to eat insects, worms and other minibeasts.



Owl

I have binocular eyes and can see in the dark. My favourite food is field and woodmice. I also look for sleeping sparrows, and other small birds. I knock them out with my beak.

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Sparrow

My favourite food is seeds. I have a short beak to crunch them up. I will also eat insects and their larvae.



Robin

I like to eat larvae and insects. I can catch them with my pointed beak. I also eat fruits like rosehips, berries and seeds.



Jay

My favourite food is acorns. I hide them so that squirrels can't find them. I also eat insects, small snakes and other birds.



Blackbird

My favourite food is worms. I can pull them out of the ground with my beak. I eat snails, slugs, fat larvae and beetles.



Swallow

I catch most of my food when I am flying about. I eat insects. When no more insects are flying about, I have to travel long distances to find more.

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Wood pigeon

I am a grain eater. I also like to eat the seeds of weeds. I like to eat some fruit, especially elderberries. My relatives in London eat just about anything they can find.



Muntjac deer

I come from China, and have only lived in Britain for 100 years. I eat grass and plants. In the winter, when I am very hungry, I will also strip the bark from trees.



Woodpecker

My favourite food is the insects and larvae that live in the bark of trees. I have a long beak for pecking them out. I will also come down to the ground to eat ants and other insects.



Ladybird


















I am the friend of the gardener. This is because my favourite food is aphids. The only other insects that like them are ants, but they don't eat them. They milk them!



Millipede

I am a myriapod. I have a lot of legs, but not a thousand! Like worms I live on leaf litter, and help to turn it into soil.

Who Eats What Four in a Row Board

 <p>worms</p>	 <p>fruit</p>	 <p>butterflies</p>
 <p>leaf litter</p>	 <p>mice</p>	 <p>myriapods</p>
 <p>ants</p>	<p>everything edible</p>	 <p>small birds</p>
 <p>small mammals</p>	 <p>snails</p>	 <p>seeds</p>
 <p>insect pupae</p>	 <p>green plants</p>	 <p>leaves</p>
 <p>berries</p>	 <p>larvae</p>	 <p>slugs</p>

This is the left hand sheet of the game board - glue to right hand sheet, mount or laminate..

This is the right hand sheet of the game board, cut off flap' glue to left hand sheet, mount or laminate.



aphids



nuts



rabbits



frogs



flying insects



beetles



acorns



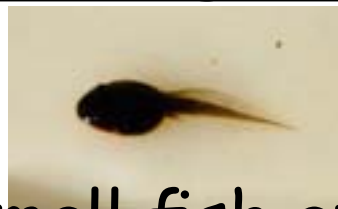
bugs



bark beetles



insect larvae



small fish and tadpoles



fresh green leaves



seeds



plant material

grass



fruit



woodlice



worms

Woodland Food Chains Four in a Row Cards

Print in two colours and cut up

rabbit	fox	woodpecker
grass snake	hedgehog	mole
shrew	mouse	squirrel
bat	toad	frog
badger	sparrowhawk	thrush
owl	sparrow	robin

Woodland Food Chains Four in a Row Cards

Print in two colours and cut up

jay	blackbird	swallow
wood pigeon	muntjac deer	ladybird
millipede		

HOW TO PLAY FOODCHAINS CONNECT FOUR

You need 4 people, one baseboard and two sets of cards (different colours.)

Work with a partner to make a team of two.

Shuffle your cards and place them in a pile facing down.

Take it in turn to turn over your top card and decide where to put it on the board.

Everyone has to agree that it is in an appropriate place.

The winning team is the first to get four in row vertically, horizontally or diagonally.