

Food Chains



Aim

- I can construct and interpret food chains

Success Criteria

- I can order a simple food chain.
- I can identify the producer, predator and prey.
- I can interpret a variety of food chains.

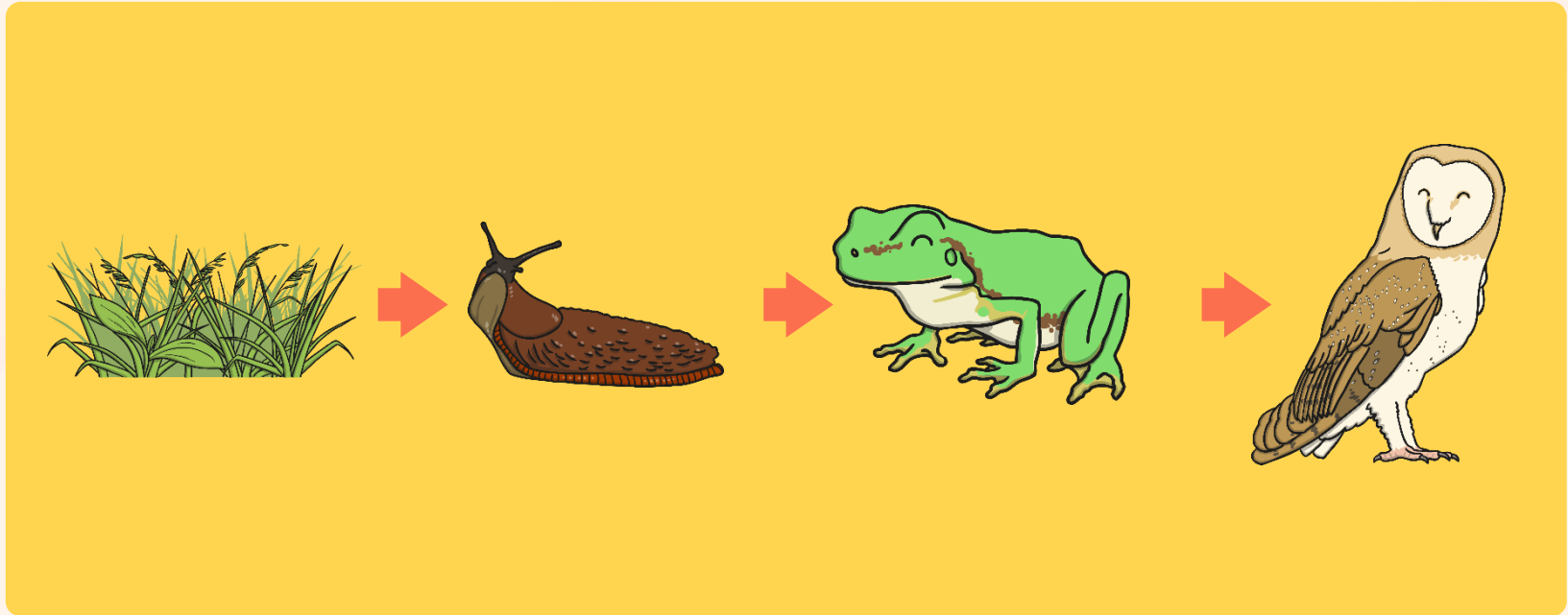
Food Chains



**What is a food chain?
Write down your
definition in your book.**

Now watch [the following video clip](#) and see if we can add to or refine our ideas.

Interpreting Food Chains



It shows what is in the food chain.

The arrow means 'is eaten by' and represents the transfer of energy.
There are lots of labels you could use in a food chain. See the next slide.

Interpreting Food Chains

In your book, or on a piece of paper, write your own definition for each of these words. Remember to write the word and its definition. (You could print the slide out too.) Move onto the next slide to check your answers.

Words	
Herbivores	
Carnivores	
Omnivores	
Detritivores	
Producers/Autotrophs	
Consumers	
Primary Consumer	
Secondary Consumer	
Tertiary Consumer	
Prey	
Scavenger	
Predators	
Decomposer	

Interpreting Food Chains – answers

Mark your work and correct any mistakes.

Words	
Herbivores	
Carnivores	
Omnivores	
Detritivores	
Producers/Autotrophs	
Consumers	
Primary Consumer	
Secondary Consumer	
Tertiary Consumer	
Prey	
Scavenger	
Predators	
Decomposer	

Labelling Food Chains 1

You could just use words instead of pictures to create a food chain.



grass



slug



frog



barn owl

Producer/Autotroph

Consumer

Consumer

Consumer

Primary
Consumer

Secondary
Consumer

Tertiary
Consumer

Prey

Predator/Prey

Predator

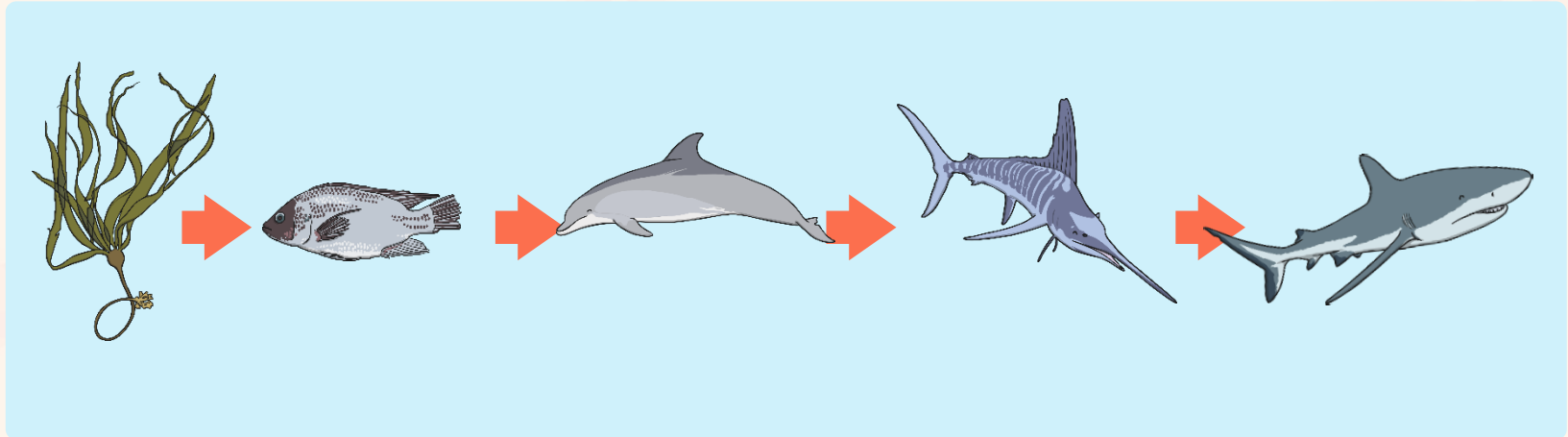
Detritivore

Omnivore

Carnivore

Labelling Food Chains 2

Here is a more complex example:



Producer/
Autotroph

Consumer

Consumer

Consumer

Consumer

Primary
Consumer

Secondary
Consumer

Tertiary
Consumer

Quaternary
Consumer

Prey

Predator/Prey

Predator/Prey

Predator/
Scavenger

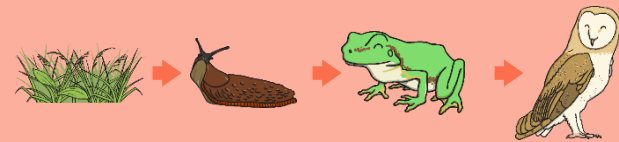
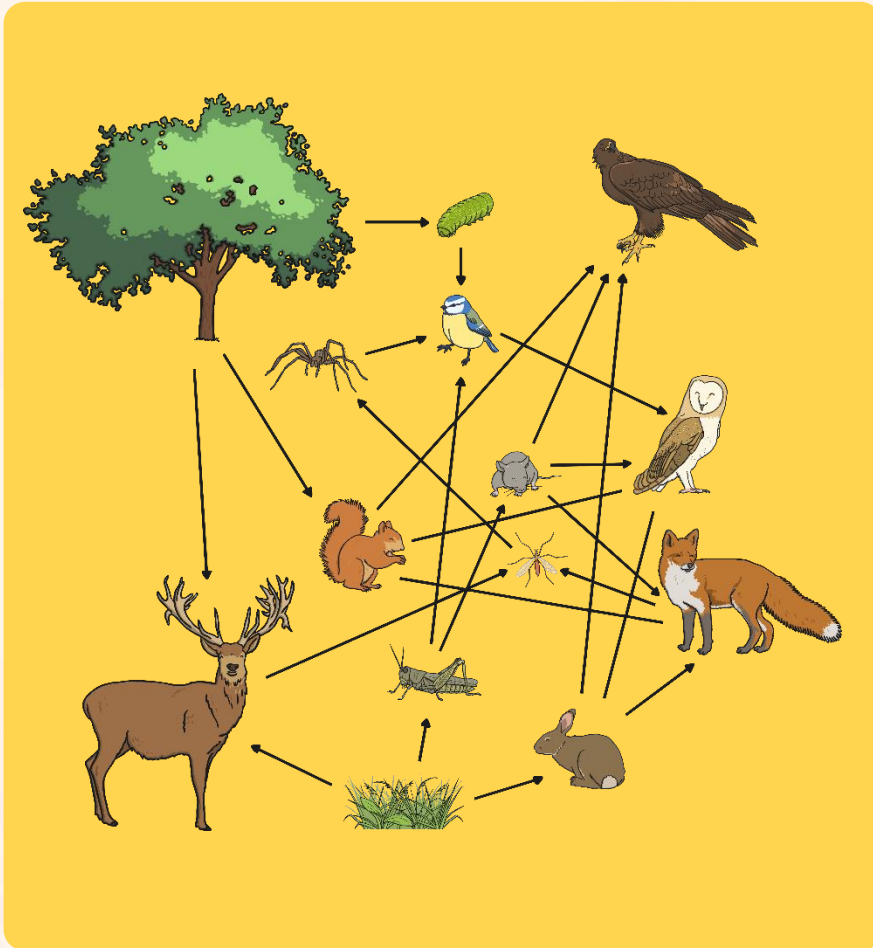
Herbivore

Carnivore

Carnivore

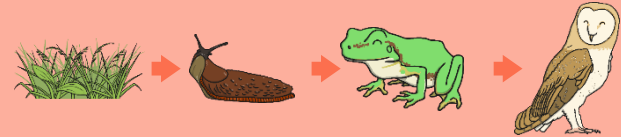
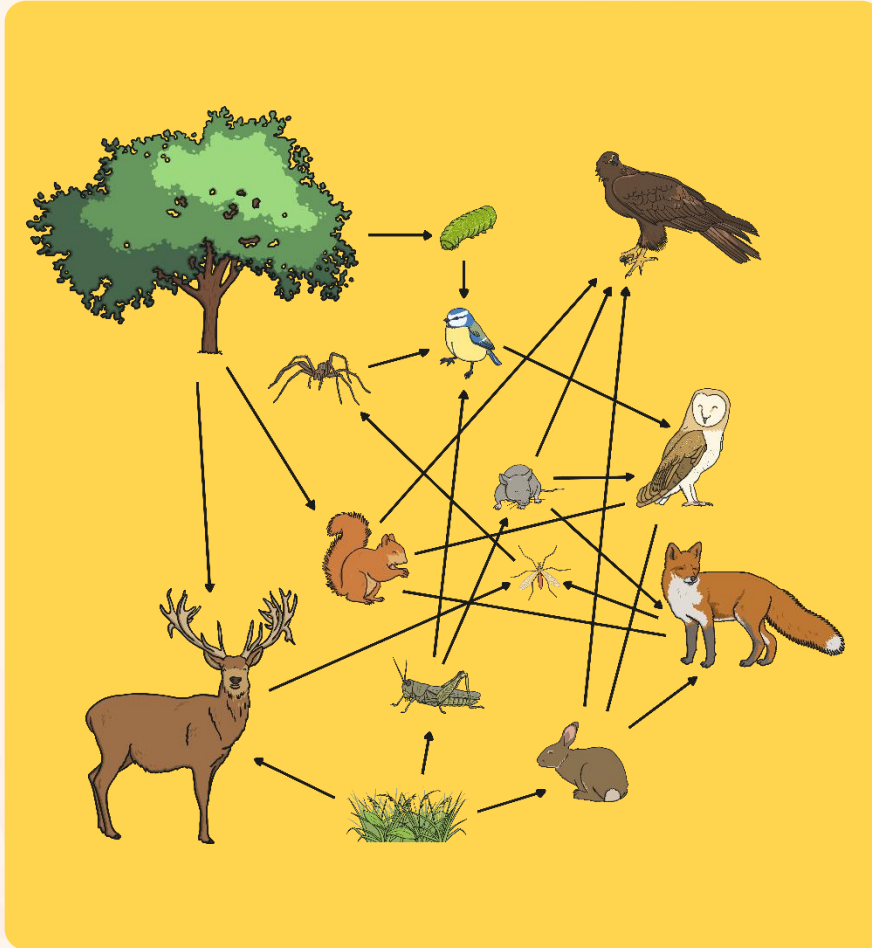
Carnivore

Interpreting Food Webs



1. How are food webs similar/different to food chains?
2. When would it be better to use a food chain?
3. When would a food web be better?

Interpreting Food Webs - answers



1. A food web is often several food chains that overlap or would be found in one habitat.
2. It would be better to use a food chain to show a simple feeding relationships
3. A food web would be better if you want to show overlapping or related food chains, or where you want to show something is eaten by several different things.

Food Chains Tasks

Complete either Task A – the Food Chains Sorting Game (on slide 12) or Task B – the Food Chain Activities and Challenge Cards (on slide 13.)

These are all available as separate documents.
You don't have to print these out, you could just use the names instead or print them out in black and white!

Food Chains Activity A - Sorting Game



Use the Food Chain Sorting Game to make simple food webs. Try label the producer, the predator and the prey in each food chain. You could challenge yourself and see if you can use as many labels as you can, like we did on slides 8 and 9. The cards are available on a separate document (and the answers too!).

Extension

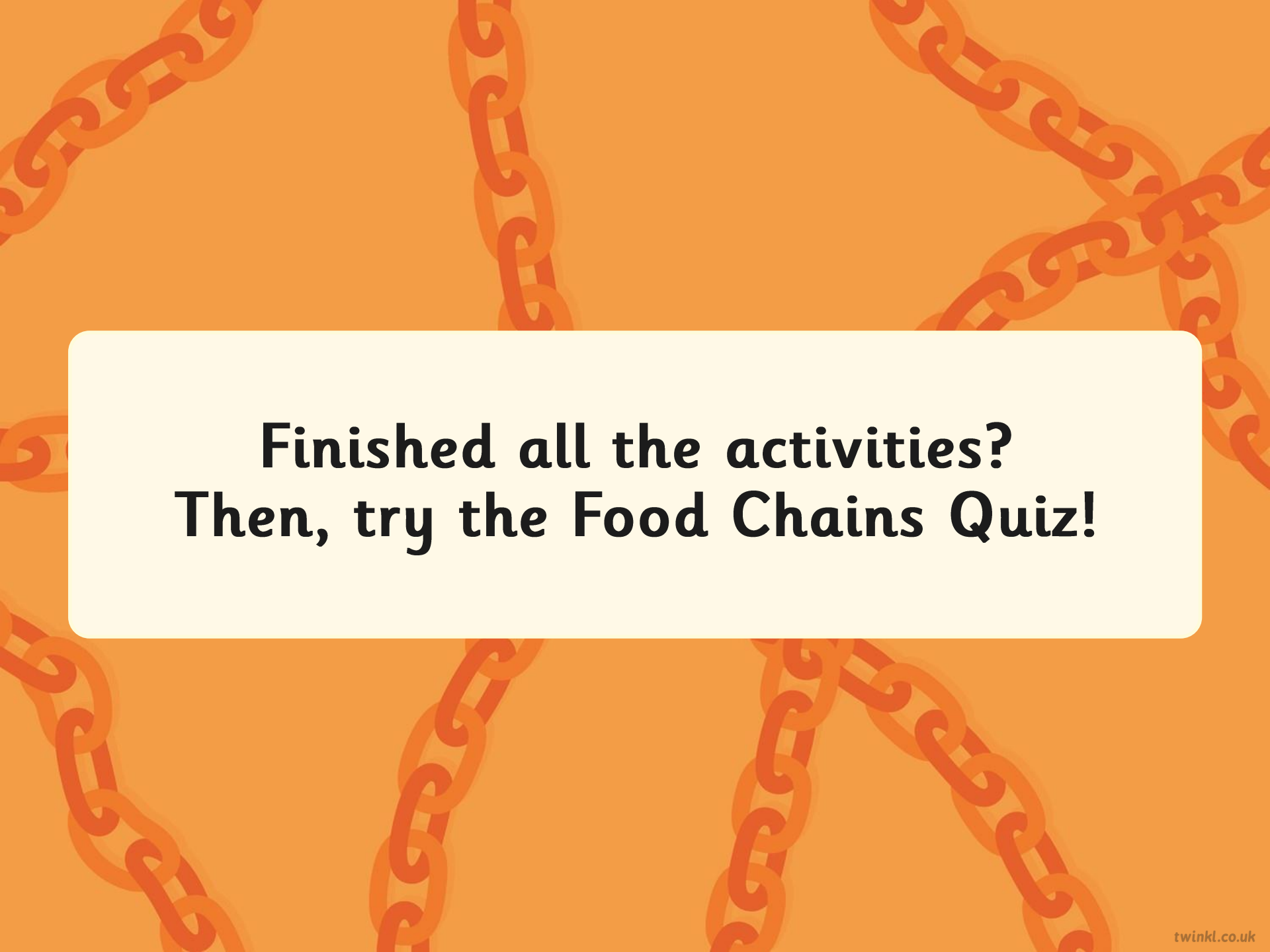
See if you can find other food chains or even look for a food web. Don't forget to add some of the labels too!

Food Chains Activity B

Use the Food Chain Sorting Cards and the Food Chain Challenge cards to make food chains and webs. (These are available as separate documents.) Remember to use as many labels as you can, as we did on slides 8 and 9.



Extension – investigate and draw at least one more food web. Remember to add those labels too!

The background of the slide features a repeating pattern of thick, stylized orange chains. The chains are composed of interlocking links and are oriented diagonally across the frame. A white rounded rectangle is centered on the slide, containing the text.

**Finished all the activities?
Then, try the Food Chains Quiz!**

