

LIVE

Teaching Through Nature



# Food chains

## What is a food chain?

All living things need food to give them energy to grow and move. A food chain shows where each living thing gets its food from. It shows who is eating who.

A food chain usually starts with the sun. Without the sun, plants (*producers*) would not grow, and without plants there would be no animals, birds or fish. These green plants are the producers.

Living things eat the plants. Living things that eat just plants are termed *herbivores*, while those that eat both plants and meat are called *omnivores* and that eat just meat are termed *carnivores*.

In any food chain the smaller *herbivores and omnivores* are the staple diet of larger *carnivores* that include sea birds and large birds of prey.

## Starting all over again!

Finally, when all living things die their bodies are broken down by small invertebrates, insects and bacteria (*decomposers*)



Find out what these words mean?

## What do puffins eat?



prey predator Consumer producer herbivores  
omnivores carnivores bacteria decomposer  
scavenger