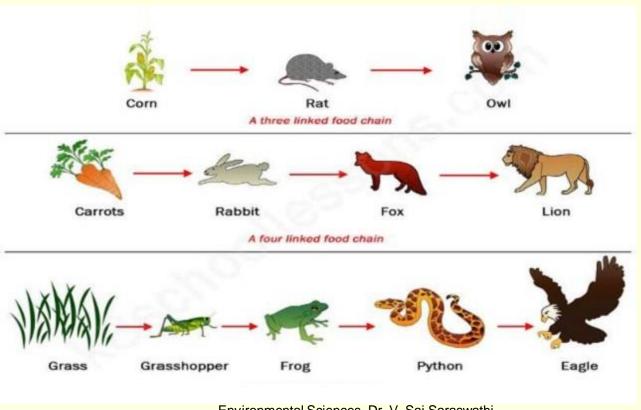


FOOD CHAIN & FOOD WEB

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FOOD CHAIN

■ The sequence of eating and being eaten in an ecosystem is known as food chain.

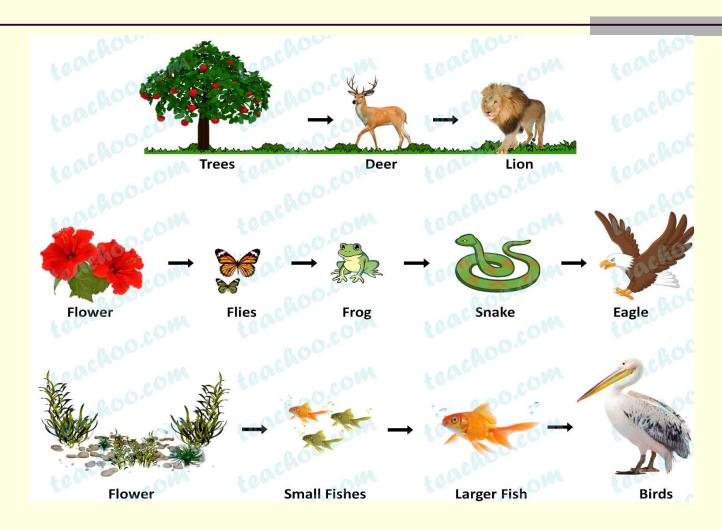


Environmental Sciences Dr. V. Sai Saraswathi

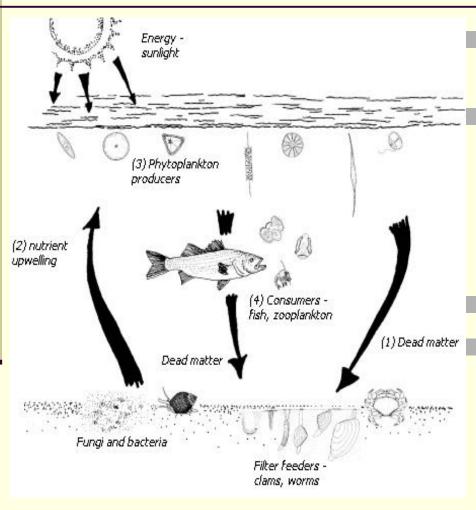
TYPES OF FOOD CHAIN

Grazing Food chain Detritus Food Chain

Grazing Food Chain



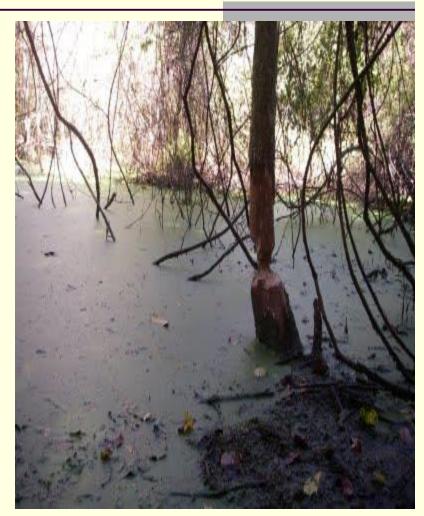
Detritus Food Chain



- It starts from dead organic matters.
 - Even the decomposers consumed by detritivores and their predators.
- Eg. Estuary
 - Grazing food chain derives energy from plant, while detritus gets from plant biomass

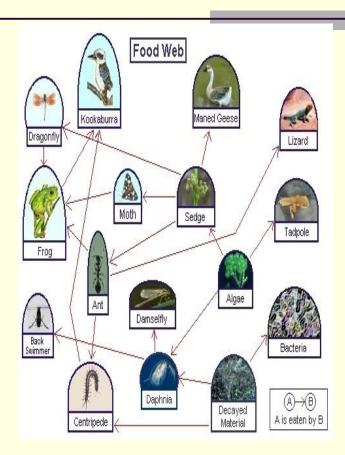
Saprotrophs: they feed on dead organic matter.

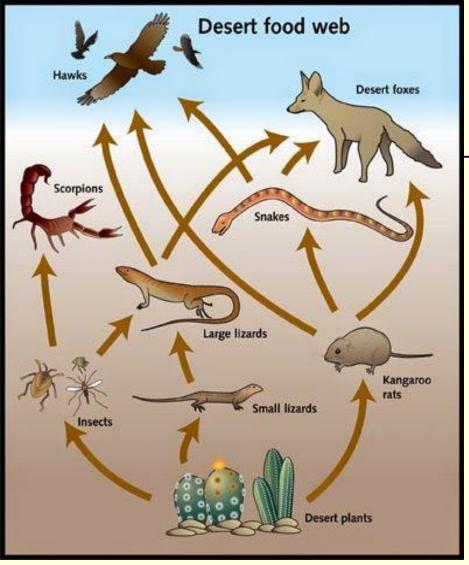
- Large quantity of leaf materials falls in the form of litter into the water.
- The leaf fragments are eaten by saprotrophs.
- Both the grazing and detritus food chain occur in natural ecosystem, but grazing predominates.

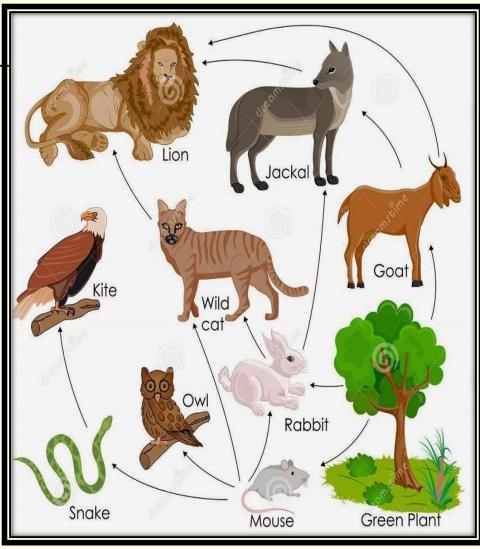


FOOD WEB

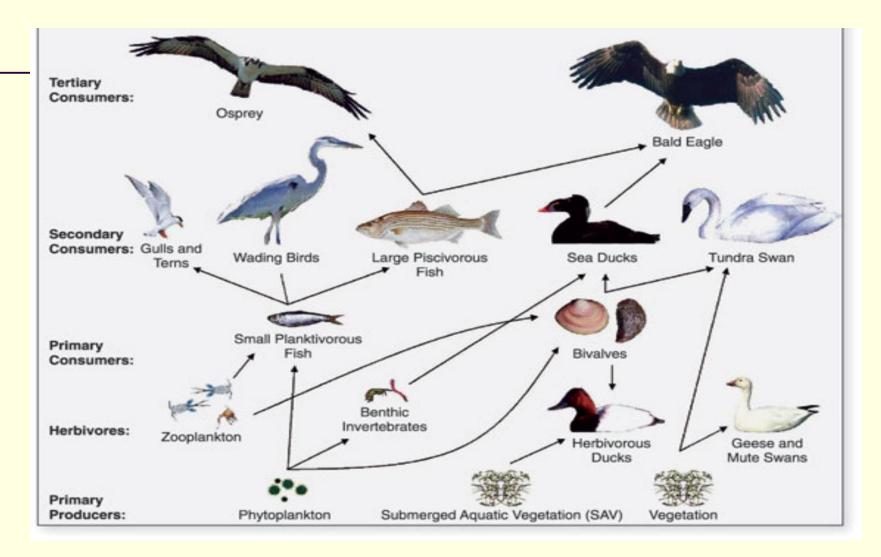
It is the network of food chains where different types of organisms are connected at different trophic levels, so that the no. of options of eating and being eaten at each trophic level.







Water Bird Food Web



Significance of food chain and food webs

- Significant role in energy flow and nutrient cycle.
- Food chain are helping in maintaining and regulating the population size.: Ecological balance.
- Biological magnification:
- Eg. Pesticides transferred from one trophic level to the other.

Case study

- Biomagnification of DDT was observed in some birds like Osprey- Sudden decline in population.
- The young ones were hatched out in premature condition leading to death.
- The reason is due to biomagnification of DDT.
- DDT used in low conc. passed thro' phytoplanktons Fish Birds.

Contd...

- The conc. of DDT was magnified several times in birds which caused the thinning of shells in bird's eggs- cause death to the young ones.
- The toxic chemicals are passed from one trophic level to the other.





Vulture Distribution in India

- White Rumped Vulture
- Indian Vulture
- Slender Billed Vulture
- Himalayan Griffon
- Eurasian Griffon
- Egyptian Vulture
- Red Headed Vulture
- Cinereous Vulture
- Bearded Vulture





Slender Billed Vulture



Eurasian Griffon

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Vulture & Diclofenac Sodium

The Indian vulture (*Gyps indicus*) is an Old World vulture native to India, Pakistan and Nepal.



Ban on diclofenac, a lifeline for vultures

TNN | Sep 2, 2015, 08:18 IST











KOZHIKODE: The Union government decision to ban multi-dose vials of painkiller drug diclofenac has sparked fresh hopes for the survival of three critically-endangered vulture species in the state, the combined population of which is currently below 50 inside the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (WWS). Their breeding population at last

count was estimated at 35 Oriental white-rumped vultures, four Indian long-billed vultures and five red-headed vultures.

SSC- Vulture

SSC Groups

Directory Amphibians & Reptiles Birds Fishes Invertebrates Plants & Fungi Mammals Cross-cutting

Birds

Asian Songbird Trade
Bird
Bustard
Cormorant
Crane
Diver / Loon
Duck
Flamingo
Galliforme
Goose
Heron
Hornbill
Pelican
Penguin

Vulture

The IUCN SSC Vulture Specialist Group is dedicated to Accipitrid and Cathartid vulture conservation, research and education.



Links

Website

2018 IUCN SSC Vulture SG report

2016-2017 IUCN SSC Vulture SG report

Thank You