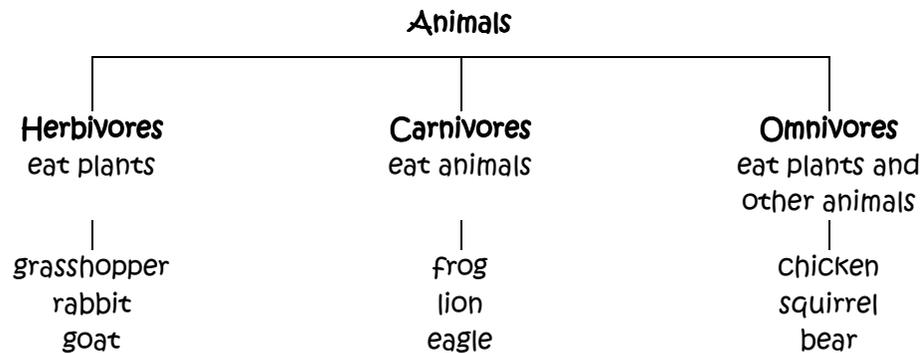


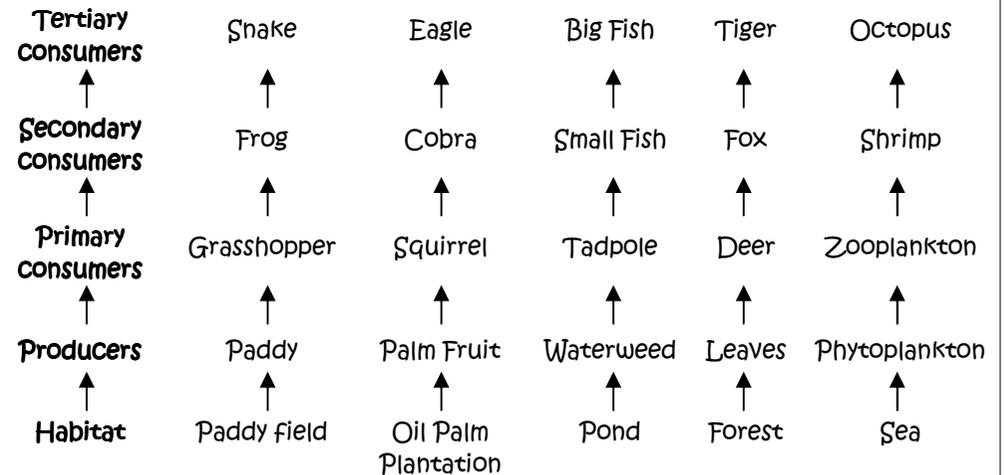
## FOOD CHAINS & FOOD WEBS

- animal need food to stay alive
- different animal need different type of food
- the place that same species are living together is called **habitat**



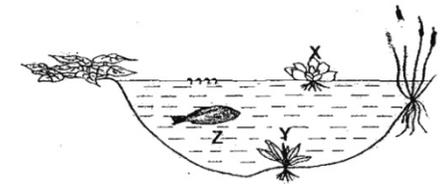
- plants are called **producers** as they produce their own food from the sun through the process of **photosynthesis**
- humans or animals are called **consumers** because they get food by eating other animals or plants
- **a food chain shows** how each living thing gets its food (it shows **who is eating who**)
- the arrow (  $\longrightarrow$  ) means “**is eaten by**”
- food chains are important as they keep the **balance of population** in a habitat and in other words:
  - o when one organism is remove/destroy in a food chain, it will cause an **imbalance of environment** where some organism will increase and some decrease
  - o a **change** in the **size of one population** in a food chain **will affect other populations**
- food chains always **start with plants** (producer)
- **in a food chain, producer** always the **largest population**

### Example of Food Chains



### Questions

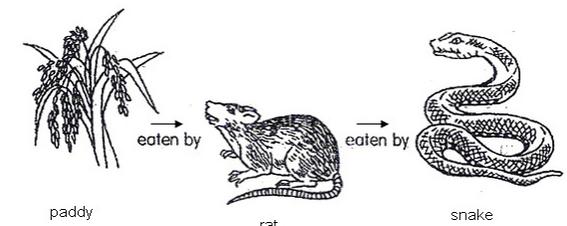
1. Explain how organisms Y and Z are affected when organism X multiplies rapidly.



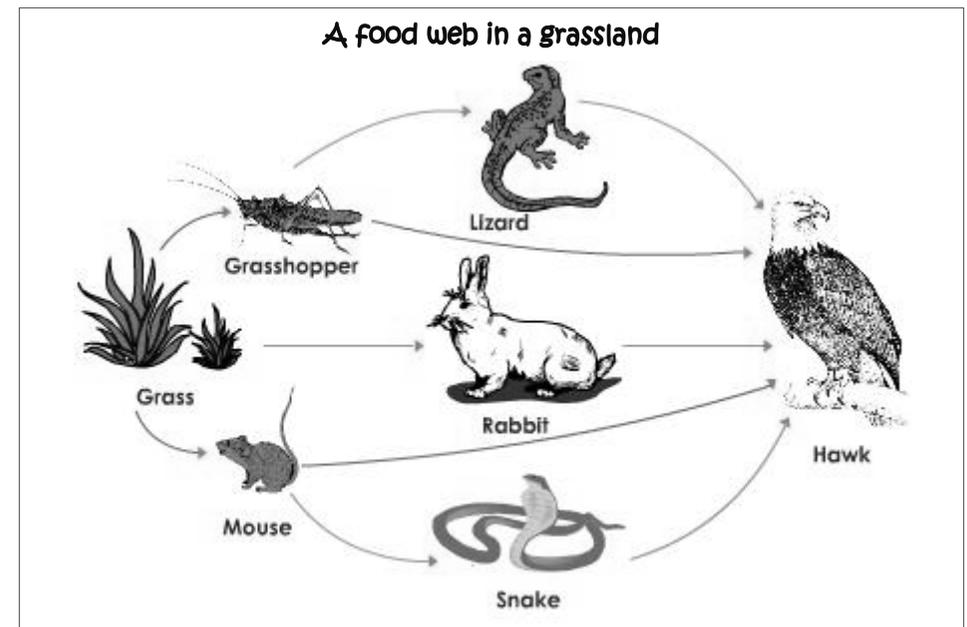
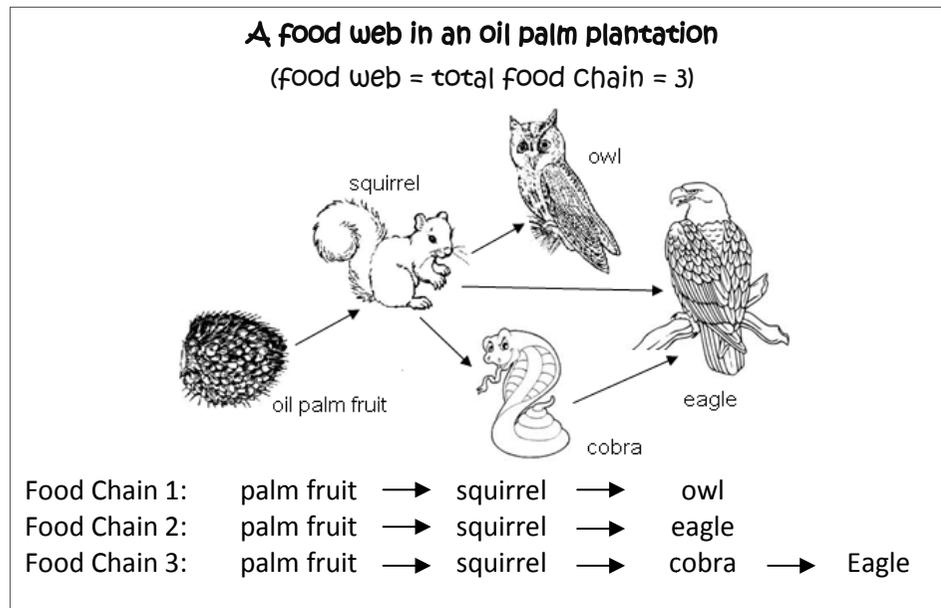
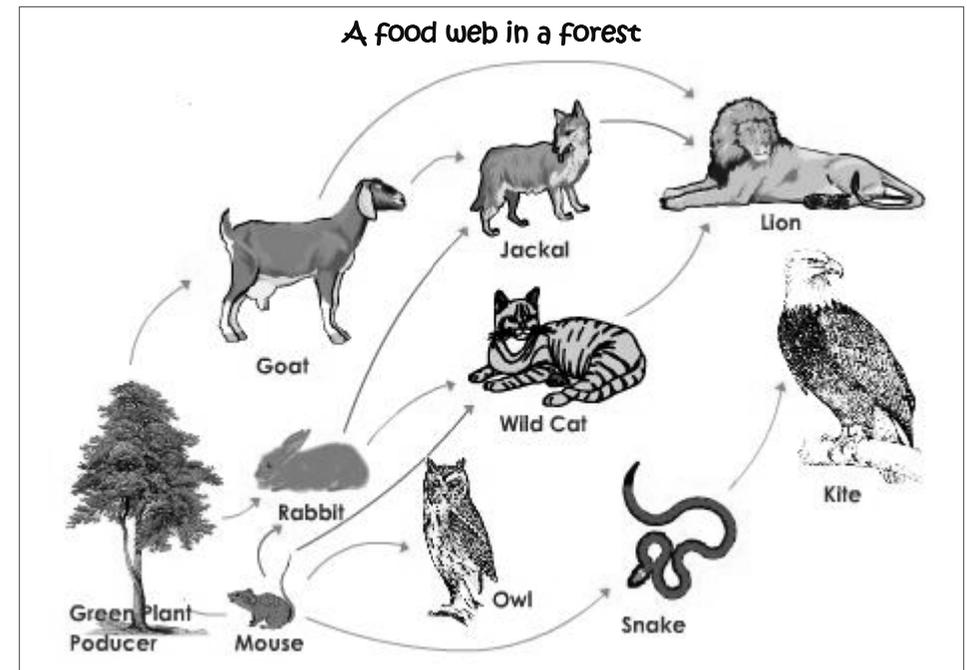
When organism X multiplies rapidly, it will soon cover the surface of the water preventing sunlight from reaching Y. Without sunlight, Y cannot photosynthesize and so cannot produce oxygen, Z will die from lack of oxygen.

2. In a paddy field, if all the snakes are killed, what will be the immediate effect on the paddy and rat? Explain your answer clearly.

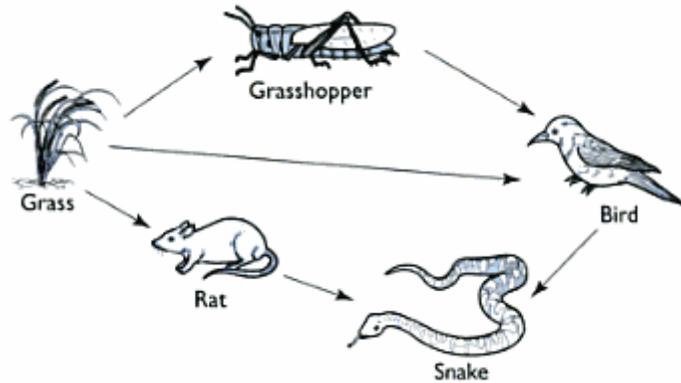
The number of rats will increase and the number of paddy will decrease. There will be no snakes to eat the rats so there will be more rats to feed on the paddy resulting in a decrease of paddy.



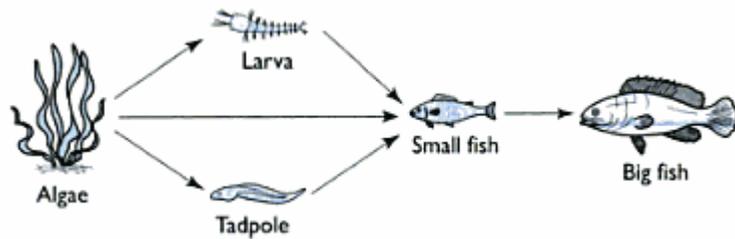
- a **food web** consists of 2 or more food chains
- a food web is a **network of interrelated food chains** in a given area
- in a food web, if there is any shortage or death of living things, it will affect the other living things
- there is a certain species of animals eat only one type of food and they have difficulty to survive (or will face extinction) because their only sources of food may run out:



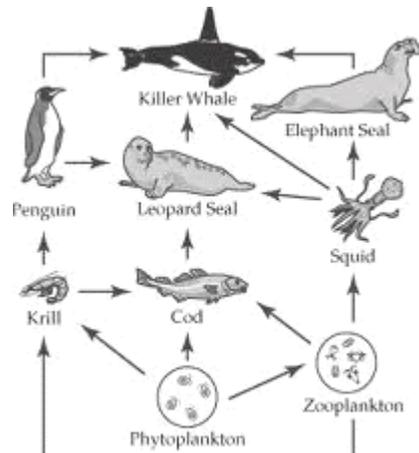
A food web in a paddy field



A food web in a pond

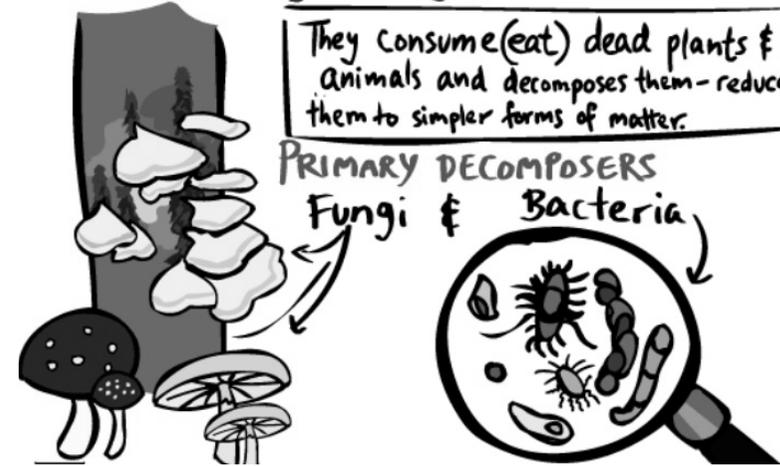


A marine food web



# DECOMPOSERS

They consume (eat) dead plants & animals and decompose them - reduces them to simpler forms of matter.



Decomposers are the cleanup crew of life.

If you die, they eat you.

If you poop, they eat that.

If you lose a leaf, they eat it.

Whenever something that was alive dies, the decomposers get it.

Decomposers break down materials and return nutrients to the soil, examples bacteria, fungus and other scavengers.

Note: scavengers means "animals that eat flesh and rotting animal flesh", e.g. earthworms

