



**Topic: ECOSYSTEMS**

Date covered: 26/02/18 – 29/03/18

Key words:

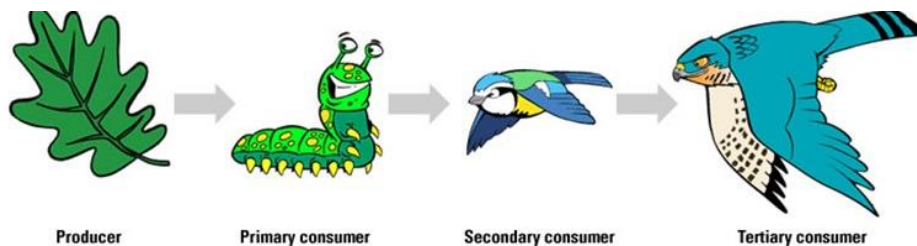
- **Organism:** A living thing such as an animal or plant.
- **Habitat:** The type of environment in which an animal or plant lives.
- **Ecosystem:** A group of organisms and their environment.
- **Herbivore:** An animal that only eats plants.
- **Omnivore:** An animal that eats plants and animals.
- **Carnivore:** An animal that only eats other animals.
- **Adaptation:** Features of an organism that allow it to survive in its environment.

Key facts:

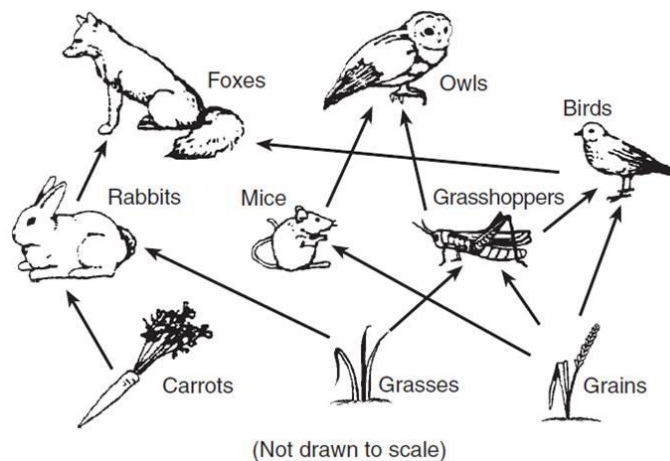
- All food chains start with a producer (plant). They get their energy from the sun.
- Arrows show the direction of energy transfer. (The caterpillar takes energy from the leaf)
- Energy is lost at each stage of the food chain.
- Food webs illustrate more than one food chain within an ecosystem
- A disease or loss of one organism within a food web will affect other animals within the food web.
- Organisms are adapted to their habitat.
- Animals are adapted to be predators or prey. Predators have adaptations to hunt and prey are adapted to either run or hide.

Key diagrams:

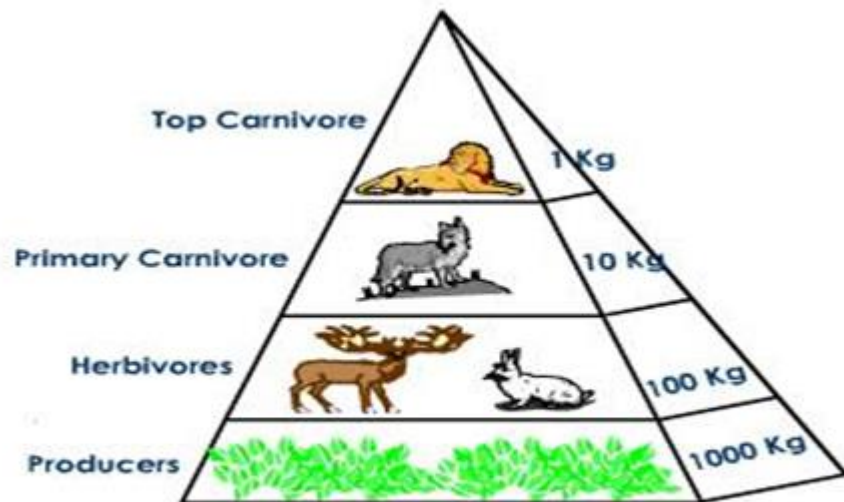
**Food chain**



**Food Web**



**Biomass pyramid:**

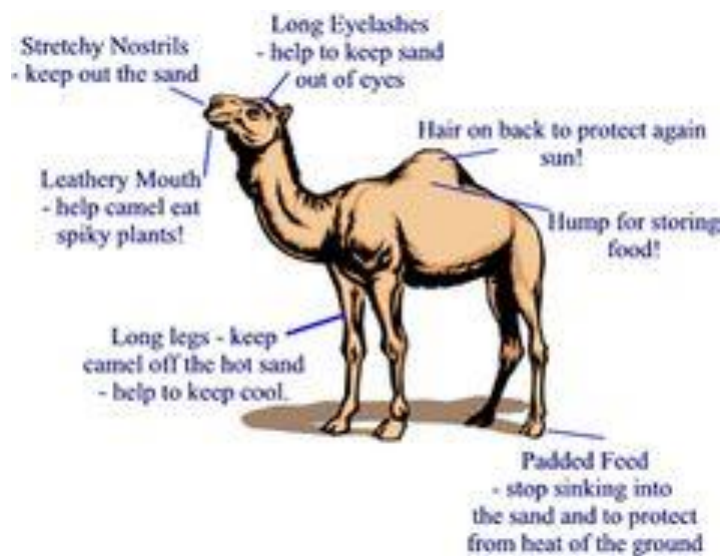


**Upright Pyramid of biomass in a Terrestrial Ecosystem**

**Adaptations:**

**Cactus**

1. No leaves – reduce water loss.
2. Small surface area – reduce water loss.
3. Very thick stem – store water.
4. Spines – stop animals eating it.
5. Shallow but extensive roots – absorb water quickly when it rains.



**Additional information:**

