

YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT

TRAINER'S GUIDE

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You Are What You Eat



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Objective: Children will explore how energy transfer occurs throughout the food chain while conducting a survey of organisms inhabiting a square meter of an ecosystem. Background Information for Activity Leaders 1-1 Data Collection Sheet 1-3 Activity Leader's Guide Expedition Learning Cards (set of 3)

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Standards and Objectives: You Are What You Eat

	National Science Education Standards	Objectives
A Full Plate	 Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry Gather data about populations in their natural environment. Use data to formulate explanations Characteristics of organisms. Organisms have basic needs. Organisms and their environments All animals depend on plants, and plants depend on the Sun for photosynthesis. Humans change environments. 	Children will explore how energy transfer occurs throughout the food chain while conducting a survey of organisms inhabiting a square meter of an ecosystem.
Watch Your Back	 Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry Gather data from simulated scenarios. Use data to formulate explanations. Characteristics of organisms Organisms have basic needs. The behavior of individual organisms is influenced by external cues (such as hunger). All organisms cause changes to the environments where they live. 	Children will explore the predator/prey relationship found in food chains through a whole group game of predator vs. prey.
Oh, the Tangled Web We Weave!	 Characteristics of organisms Organisms have basic needs. Organisms and their environments All animals depend on plants, and plants depend on the Sun for photosynthesis. All organisms cause changes to the environments where they live. Humans change environments. 	Children will explore how living things depend on sunlight and each other to survive while making the connection when more than one food chain may connect to form a food web.
Ecosystem on a String	 Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry Gather data about populations in an artificial ecosystem. Use observations to formulate explanations. Characteristics of organisms Organisms have basic needs. The behavior of individual organisms is influenced by external cues (such as hunger). Organisms and their environments All organisms depend or are affected by the living and non-living parts of their environment. 	Children will investigate how living things interact with their environment by exploring the interaction between living and non-living things in a small-scale ecosystem.