

What is the difference between a food chain and a food web?

Part 1: FOOD CHAINS FOLLOW A SINGLE PATH AS ANIMALS EAT EACH OTHER.

EXAMPLE:

- THE SUN provides food for GRASS
- The GRASS is eaten by a GRASSHOPPER
- The GRASSHOPPER is eaten by a FROG
- The FROG is eaten by a SNAKE
- The SNAKE is eaten by a HAWK.

Part 2: FOOD WEBS SHOW HOW PLANTS & ANIMALS ARE INTERCONNECTED BY DIFFERENT PATHS.

EXAMPLE:

- TREES produce ACORNS which act as food for many MICE and INSECTS.
- Because there are many MICE, WEASELS and SNAKES have food.
- The insects and the acorns also attract BIRDS, SKUNKS, and OPOSSUMS.
- With the SKUNKS, OPOSSUMS, WEASELS and MICE around, HAWKS, FOXES, and OWLS can find food.

They are all connected! Like a spider's web: if one part is removed, it can affect the whole web.

FOOD WEBS show how plants and animals are connected in many ways to help them all survive.

FOOD CHAINS follow just one path of energy as animals find food.

