

Build a web of connections

Read the evidence, then draw a model

Name: _____ Date: _____

Animals get energy from food. In a food web, an arrow points from the food to the animal that eats it. For example, crab ----> leopard shark means food energy moves from the crab to the shark.

A predator eats another animal. The animal it eats is its prey.

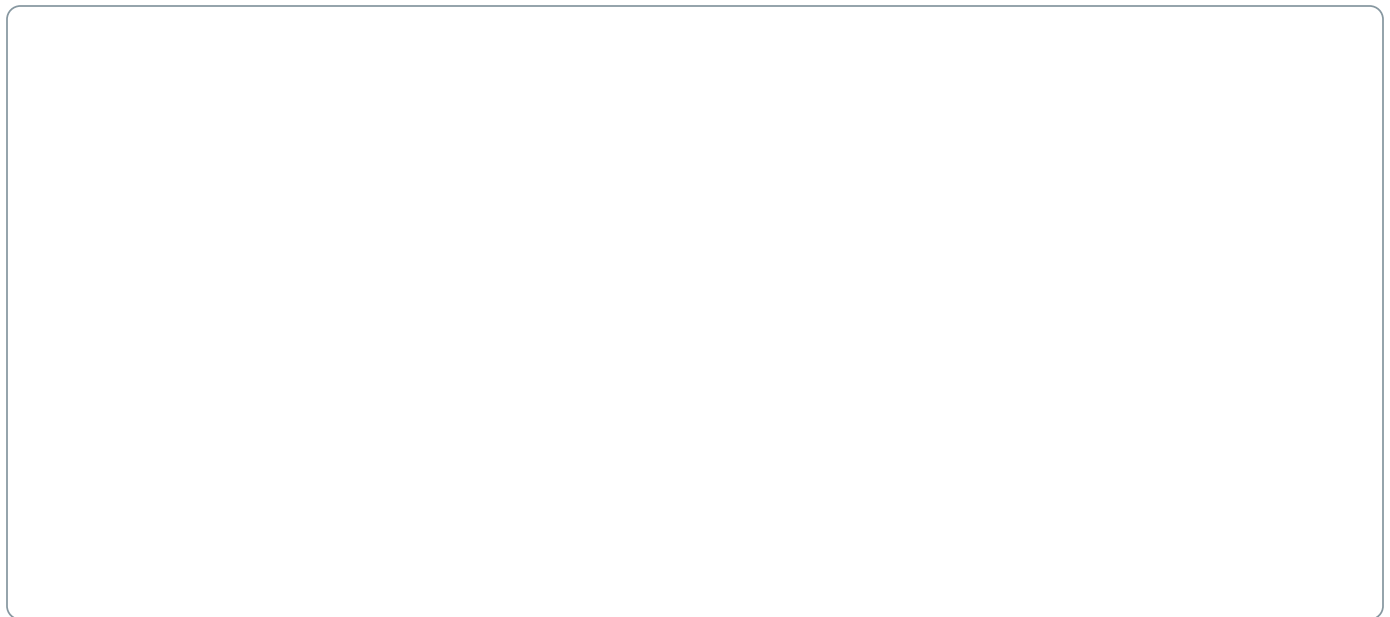
A model is a simple way to show an idea. Your model will show some feeding links. It will leave other parts of ocean life out.

Evidence card

Leopard sharks eat clams, worms, crabs and fishes. Broadnose sevengill sharks eat crabs, fishes and other sharks, including leopard sharks. These are selected links from a much larger food web.

Your six labels: clam, crab, worm, fish, leopard shark, broadnose sevengill shark.

Write the six labels below. Read one food link in the evidence card. Draw its arrow. Repeat for the other links. Mark any extra link you want to check with a question mark.



Can an animal be both predator and prey? Name an example from your model and explain.

Science source: Monterey Bay Aquarium: leopard shark

Science source: Monterey Bay Aquarium: broadnose sevengill shark

Try a change

Use your model to ask a new question

Name: _____ Date: _____

Imagine there are fewer crabs. Circle the links that involve crabs. Talk with a partner about what might happen. A prediction is an idea about what could happen next.

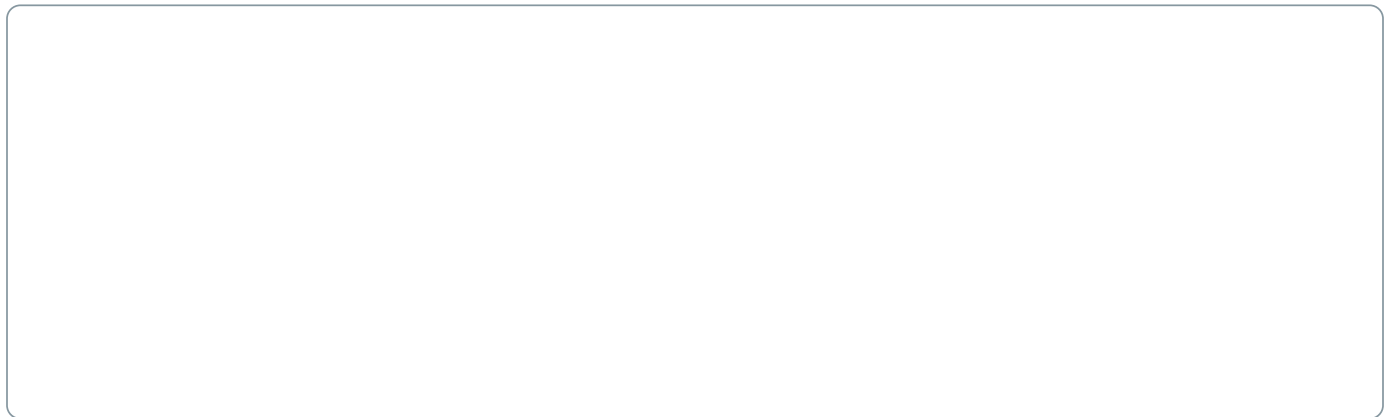
One possible result is:

To check this idea, I would need to find out:

What does your food web leave out or fail to tell you?

Make the connection visible

Choose two or more animals from your model. Draw a feeding connection between them. Add words if they help explain your idea.



Ask a partner to explain your picture. Correct any arrow or label that gives the wrong idea.