**Build a Food Web Activity**

In this activity, you will be building a food web for the Tulare County foothills. You have been provided with images of a number of organisms that are native to the area.

Directions:

1. Cut out the animal icons from the paper provided. It is recommended that do not glue the icons down until you are confident in the manner that you have organized your food web.

2. You must use ALL of the icons – no fair making some members of the community disappear.

3. On the paper provided, organize the icons. Use the information provided about the ecosystem to establish as many energy-transfer relationships as possible.

4. Using a straight edge (ruler), draw lines showing the energy transfer relationships on your board. Remember: The arrowhead should point AT the organism that is CONSUMING the other organism.

5. Along each line connecting two organisms, identify the relationship that exists between the two:

* 1. Producer 🡪Primary consumer
  2. Primary consumer 🡪 Secondary consumer
  3. Secondary consumer 🡪 Tertiary consumer
  4. Consumer 🡪 Decomposer
  5. Producer 🡪 Decomposer

Ecosystem information:

As in all ecosystems, the Sun is the ultimate source of energy for all plants. The Scrub Jay, Meadowlark, and the Jackrabbit all receive energy from the Elderberry Bush. The Oak tree is consumed by the Squirrel and the Field Mouse. The Wild Grasses are consumed by the Deer, Field Mouse, and Grasshopper.

The Jackrabbit can provide energy for the Coyote, Fox, and the Hawk. The Grasshopper is consumed by the Frog, Meadowlark, Scrub Jay, and the Lizard. The Frog provides energy for the Rattlesnake. The Mosquito provides energy for the Frog and can get its energy from a Fox, Rabbit, Coyote or Mule deer. The Squirrel is consumed by the Rattlesnake , Coyote, and Hawk. The Rattlesnake can be consumed by the Hawk or Coyote.

The mushroom is a decomposer, so it can get its energy from any of the organisms in the food web once they are dead.

*(These are not ALL the possible connections. Make as many as you possibly can and label them)*

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