

Essential information

Age range:

Key Stage 1 and 2

Group size:

full class dependent on the leader

Time needed:

Approximately 20 minutes for producing food chain

Curriculum links:

Science Unit 5B Life Cycles, 4B Habitats, 2B Plants and Animals in the Local Environment and 2C Variation. Also can support literacy, key skills and thinking skills.

Setting:

Classroom

Contact us:

For enquiries regarding the activity sheets, please contact Emily Jones on:
emily@ptes.org
020 7498 4533
www.ptes.org

For enquiries regarding stag beetle biology and ecology, please contact Deborah Harvey on:
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Stag beetle food chain workshop - leader's notes

Background to workshop

In this workshop children will learn about food chains that occur in the natural world. They will then be asked to produce a food chain that includes a stag beetle and a larva.

Materials needed

- Printouts of exercise downloadable from the free resources section of the website.
- Coat hanger and string

Running the workshop

Give each child a print out of the exercise and ask them to cut out the five pictures on the front page. Using a coat hanger and the string get the children to recreate the food chain hanging from the coat hanger – using the arrows as a guide to what eats what. They can write the name of each animal/object on the back of the picture.

Extension activities

- Cut out the images on the second page to create food chains that include other species.
- To make the exercise more difficult, ask the children to think of other animals and plants that eat each other and get them to create their own food chain.
- Can they think of a food chain with at least five animals in them?
- Name the different groups within a food chain i.e. herbivore, omnivore, carnivore.