

EALR/Standard:

LS2 A-C: Ecosystems, food webs, energy flow

Activity:

Construct a food web representing organisms in the garden

*Created by Carrie Reinhart, Environmental studies intern for Whitman College, Spring 2010*

Goals:

Understand the relationships between producers, consumers, and decomposers

Construct a visual representation of the garden ecosystem

Brief description:

Students take pictures or make drawings of the organisms they encounter in the garden, and arrange them into a visual representation of the energy flow between producers, consumers, and decomposers.

Materials:

Digital cameras (if available)

Butcher paper, markers

Procedure:

In small groups, students explore the garden and take pictures/ make drawings of the different organisms they encounter. In the classroom, students determine whether each organism is a consumer, producer, or decomposer and label each. Then, arrange pictures on a piece of large paper, showing energy relationships between organisms using arrows, etc.

Then, groups present their posters to the rest of the class.

New vocabulary:

Producers      Consumers      Decomposers