SIMPLE FOOD CHAIN

Overview:

Students discuss food chains and energy use.

Objectives:

The student will:
- describe a simple food chain; and
- create a simple food chain.

Targeted Alaska Grade Level Expectations:

Science

[3] SC3.2 The student demonstrates an understanding that all organisms are linked to each other and their physical environments through the transfer and transformation of matter and energy by organizing a simple food chain of familiar plants and animals (L).

[3] SA2.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of the attitudes and approaches to scientific inquiry by answering "how do you know?" questions with reasonable answers.

Materials:

- *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Trout* by Teri Sloat
- STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Food Chain"

Activity Procedure:

1. Read the story *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Trout*. Discuss the animals the lady ate. Ask: How many of these animals do you eat? Where do these animals live? How do they get the food they eat to grow?

2. Discuss the word energy and that all living things need energy to survive and grow. Every time an animal moves, it uses energy. Ask students how they use energy. List responses on the board.

3. Discuss how animals, including humans, get energy from the food they eat. All animals eat food whether the food is plants or other animals. Ask students their favorite food that gives them energy to move.

4. Draw a simple food chain on the board for students to see (grass, rabbit, fox). Discuss how a food chain shows how each living thing gets food, and how energy is passed from creature to creature. Food chains begin with plant-life, and end with animal-life. Ask students to think of other food chains they know about and draw them on the board. They may have more than 3 sections to the food chain (e.g., plant, insect, rodent, bird or plant, insect, fish, human).

5. Have students complete STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Food Chain".

Extension Ideas:

1. Act out a simple food chain.

2. Discuss how a food chain works in a habitat.

FOOD CHAIN

Directions: Cut out the pictures at the bottom of the page and paste them into the correct boxes in the food chain.

Food Chain