



Term 3, Lesson 7

Food Chains & Food Webs

Learning Objectives:

1. Differentiate between a food chain and a food web and identify organisms at different trophic levels.

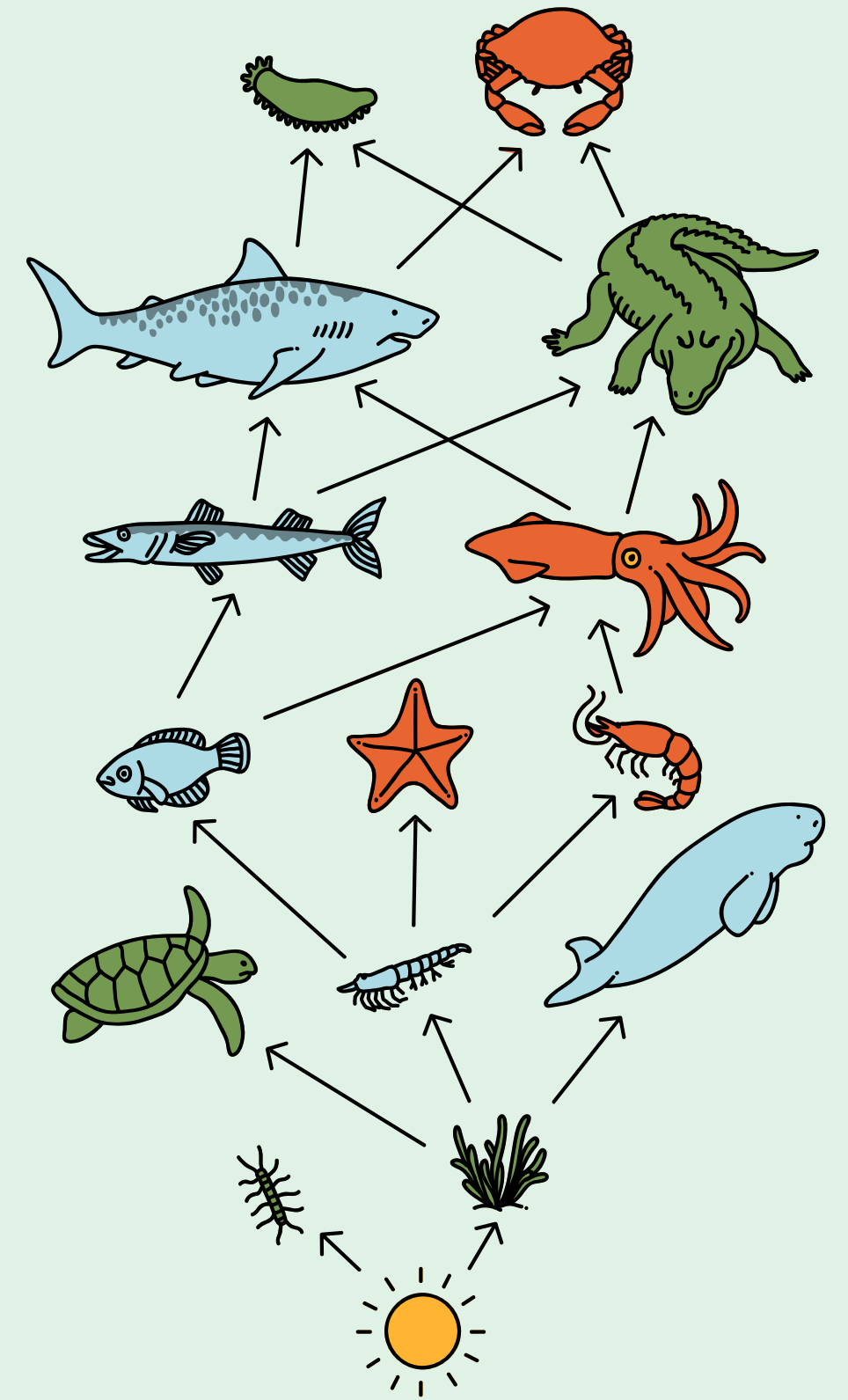


Photo credit: Dr. James Van Dyke

Food Chain and Food Web

Food chain - a linear sequence that shows the transfer of energy and nutrients from one organism to another.

Food web - consists of many interconnected food chains. A food web shows the feeding relationships among different organisms. In a food web, organisms can have multiple predators or prey

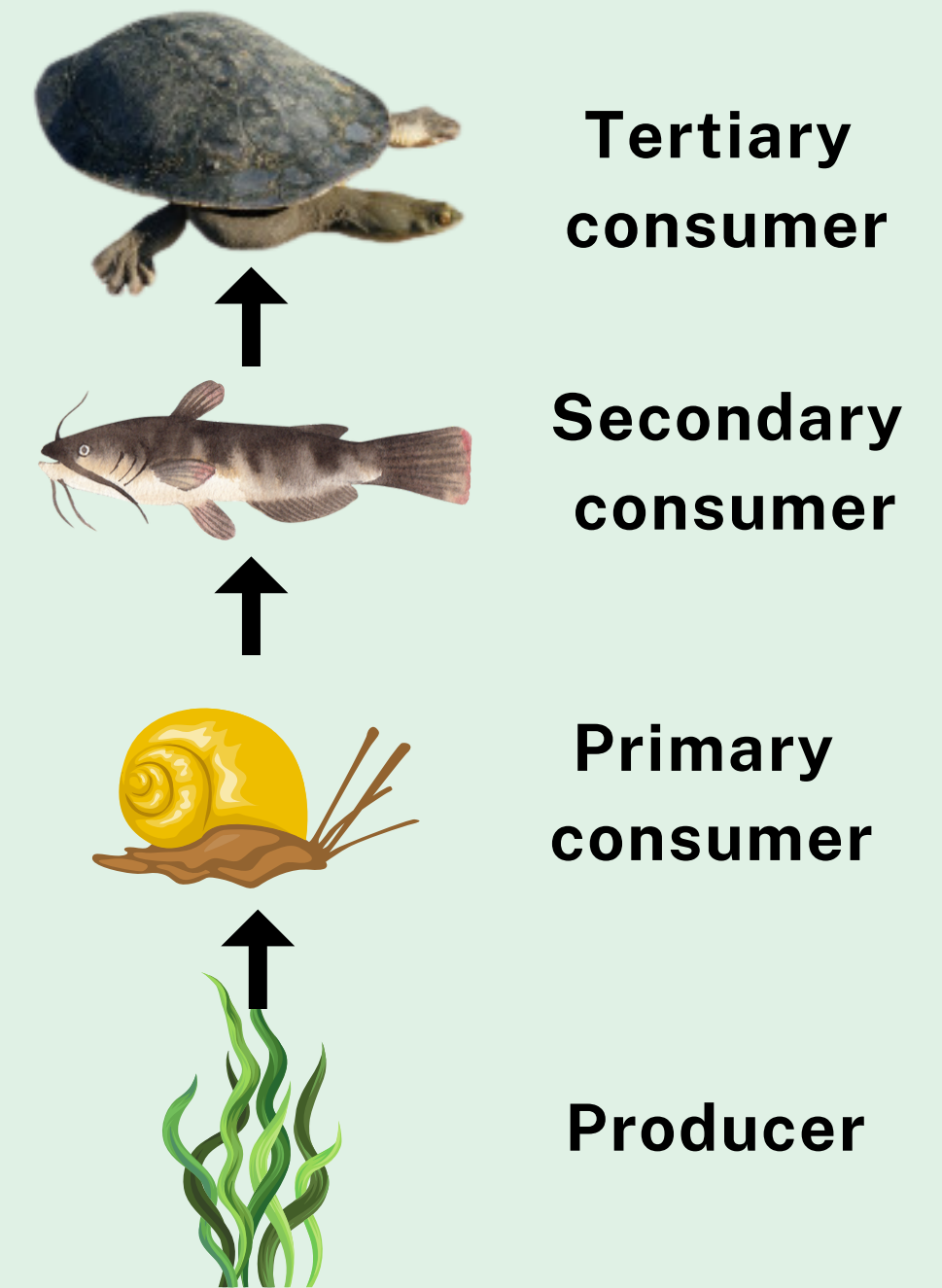


Example of a food web

Trophic Levels

Trophic levels refers to the positions that organisms occupy in a food chain or food web.

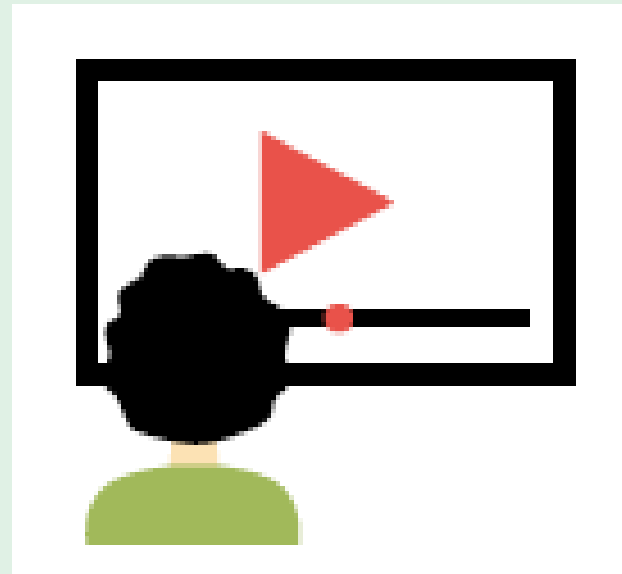
- **Producers** - plants occupy the first trophic level as they convert sunlight into energy through photosynthesis.
- **Primary consumers** - animals that feed on plants (i.e. herbivores).
- **Secondary consumers** - animals that eat primary consumers.
- **Tertiary consumers** - larger carnivores that eat secondary consumers.



Classroom Activities

Activity 1 - Video: Food chains & food webs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YuO4WB4SwCg>



- As a class discuss what you learnt from the video. Write your ideas on the whiteboard.

Classroom Activities

Activity 2 -

Draw a food chain and food web for your local wetland.



Incorporate the macroinvertebrate you drew in Lesson 5 (*Abundance and Species Richness*) into each.

Identify the primary producers, consumers, tertiary consumers and decomposers.