

# Food Webs

## Teacher Guidance Notes

**Curriculum Level:** 5

**Achievement Aim:** Ecology

- Investigate the interdependence of living things (including humans) in an ecosystem

**Key Competency:** Relating to Others  
Participating and Contributing

**Time Allowance:** 1 hour

**Outline:** Rangatira Island supports a wide variety of species. This activity gives students information about some of the species that live on Rangatira Island. Students require some prior knowledge of food chains and food webs to complete this activity.

**Suggested Lesson Plan:**

	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	Show students the pictures on the PowerPoint. Explain to the students that they need to make careful notes about each organism that is featured so that they can construct a food web later in the lesson	PowerPoint - <i>Food webs</i>  PowerPoint information sheet- <i>Food Webs</i>
<b>Main Activity</b>	Divide the class into groups. Give each group a sheet of paper and a set of cards with the names of organisms on them. Students work together to construct a food web. Students take a copy of their food webs and then answer the following questions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Name a producer in the food web</li> <li>2. Name a herbivore in the food web</li> <li>3. Write down all the food chains that end in a Rangatira Spider</li> <li>4. What might happen to the number of Wetas if the number of spiders increased?</li> <li>5. What might happen to the number of Black Robins if the number of Harriers decreased?</li> </ol>	Large sheet of paper  Organism cards  Marker Pens  Glue  Food web answer sheet

<b>Plenary</b>	Get students to identify the different trophic levels in the food chain using different colours to identify each level.	Completed student food webs  Coloured pens
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### Extension Activities

- Get students to use the food web to draw a pyramid of numbers for different food chains
- Discuss what happens if pests such as rats were accidentally released onto Rangatira Island.
- Students can use the Food Web game online to collect items for a food web and to test their understanding: [www.outreach.canterbury.ac.nz/chatham](http://www.outreach.canterbury.ac.nz/chatham) and follow the link to the food web game on the right hand side.