

Inter-relationships Between Living Things

Chapter 2: Inter-relationships Between Living Things · Topic 1

Key Concept

A food chain shows how energy passes from one living thing to another, like grass being eaten by a deer, which is eaten by a lion.

Plants are producers, making their own food, while animals are consumers, eating plants or other animals for energy.

Decomposers, like bacteria and fungi, break down dead plants and animals, returning nutrients to the soil for plants to use again.

This interconnected web of relationships, called an ecosystem, needs balance, and disrupting one part can affect the whole system.

Quick Revision Notes

- Food chain shows energy passing between living things.
- Example: grass → deer → lion.
- Plants are producers, make own food.
- Animals are consumers, eat plants/animals.
- Decomposers: bacteria, fungi break down dead matter.
- They return nutrients to soil.
- This web of relationships is an ecosystem.
- Disrupting one part affects the whole system.

Practice Questions

- 1 Draw a simple food chain with three living things.
- 2 Discuss the role of decomposers in nature.
- 3 Discuss what would happen if all plants disappeared.
- 4 Research a food chain from a specific habitat.
- 5 Discuss why ecosystems need balance.
- 6 Explain producers, consumers and decomposers in your own words.