

Ecosystems

Chapter 21: Ecosystems · Topic 1

Key Concept

A food chain shows energy flow from one organism to another, like grass to a grasshopper to a frog to a snake.

A food web combines multiple food chains, showing more complex, realistic feeding relationships within an ecosystem.

Nutrient cycles, like the carbon cycle and nitrogen cycle, show how essential elements move through living things and the environment.

Understanding ecosystems helps us see how all living things are interconnected and why protecting biodiversity is important.

Quick Revision Notes

- An ecosystem includes organisms and environment interacting.
- A food chain shows energy flow between organisms.
- Example: grass to grasshopper to frog to snake.
- A food web combines multiple food chains.
- It shows more complex feeding relationships.
- Nutrient cycles include carbon and nitrogen cycles.
- These show element movement through nature.
- Ecosystems show interconnection and biodiversity importance.

Practice Questions

- 1 Draw a food chain with four organisms.
- 2 Draw a simple food web with multiple chains.
- 3 Research the carbon cycle.
- 4 Discuss why biodiversity is important.
- 5 Explain how nutrient cycles work.
- 6 Discuss an ecosystem near your home.