Subject	**Science**
Unit/Topic	Food Chains and Ecosystems

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Adaptation	This is something an animal or plant has which makes it different, and helps it survive in its habitat.
Biomagnification	This is when chemicals or toxins build up, the higher up the food chain.
Carnivore	An animal that kills and eats meat.
Compete	To "fight" over resources, such as food, water or mating partners.
Consumer	An organism that obtains its energy by eating other organisms.
Ecosystem	The living organisms in a particular area, together with the non-living components of the environment.
Endangered	This means that there is a chance the organism could go extinct.
Food Chain	A sequence (usually shown as a diagram) of feeding relationships between organisms, showing which organisms eat what and the movement of energy through levels.
Food Web	A network of food chains, showing how they all link together.
Habitat	The area where an organisms lives.
Herbivore	An animal that only eats vegetation (such as grass, leaves, plants, fruit).
Interspecies	This means organisms from different species – so interspecies competition would be different species competing with each other.
Omnivore	An animals who eats both meat and vegetation.
Organism	A living thing, e.g. animals, plants or microorganisms.
Population	A group of living organisms from the same species.

Predator	An animal which kills another animal to eat.
Prey	An animal which is eaten by predators.
Producer	Plants that begin food chains by making energy from carbon dioxide and water.
Pyramid of numbers	This is how we represent the numbers of organisms in each level of the food chain.
Sample	A small part of something larger, for example a sample of a population may just be a few individuals.
Species	A type of organism that is the basic unit of classification. Individuals of different species are not able to interbreed successfully.