

Sea Turtle – Food Web Activity

Directions: You will now take on the role of a sea turtle and experience its interactions with predators, prey and humans. You will also experience how these interactions affect the marine ecosystem food web.

- You will visit a station and roll the die.
- **Record** the result of your roll on your data sheet and **describe** how this result affects the marine ecosystem food web.
- When have completed your data sheet, **draw** a food web *based on the events* which occurred during your visits to each station.



Food Web Data Sheet

[illegible]

Sea Turtle Food Web Drawing

See concept map for possible answers.



Questions

1. **Describe** the role turtles play in the marine ecosystem food web?
Students should describe the turtle's role as a predator, prey, and nutrient provider in relation to other organisms.
2. **Explain** why turtle conservation and protection is important in maintaining a healthy ecosystem.
Students should explain the role of a turtle at different levels within food chains and webs, how humans and other organisms rely on turtles, how these interactions maintain an working and healthy ecosystem – flow of energy and nutrients, and how conservation and protections ensures these interactions will continue.
3. **Describe** the role humans play in the marine ecosystem food web?
Humans are top predators and often catch turtles for food and other resources, or have indirect negative impacts on turtles through bycatch and pollution. However, humans do have positive impacts on marine ecosystems through conservation and preservation efforts.
4. **Name** one aspect of the marine ecosystem food web that you did not experience during this activity. **Explain** its important function within the food web.
Answers will vary. See concept map for possible interactions a student might explain.

Sea Turtle – Marine Ecosystem Food Web

Possible connections students might make between organisms in the food chain and web activities.

