



Where Animals and Plants Are Found

What I Need to Know

Vocabulary

- ecosystem
- food chain
- food web

What I Do

About Animals and Plants

Animals and plants are linked. They are connected. They make up an ecosystem. Not all the ecosystems are the same. Different ecosystems have different plants. They have different animals.

You are part of an ecosystem. You are linked to animals. You are linked to plants. Different ecosystems are found all around the world.

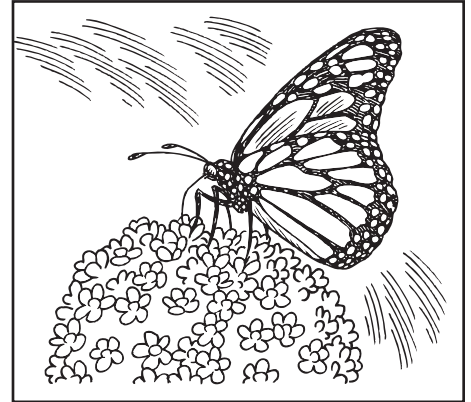
Read and complete each Activity. When you are done, you will know about a mammal that has a tongue as long as its body! You will also learn about a bird that helps crocodiles.



Name _____ Date _____

Activity 1

A Monarch butterfly lays eggs. The eggs hatch. Tiny caterpillars, or larva, hatch out. The caterpillars eat only one kind of plant. They only eat the milkweed plant. The milkweed plant has poison in it. Animals and bugs will not eat the plant. But the caterpillars do. The poison stays in the caterpillars. The caterpillars change. They change into monarch butterflies. Animals will not eat the butterflies. Why not? The milkweed poison is in the butterflies!

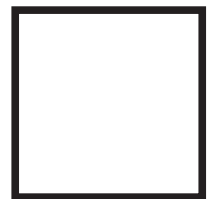
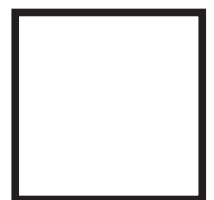
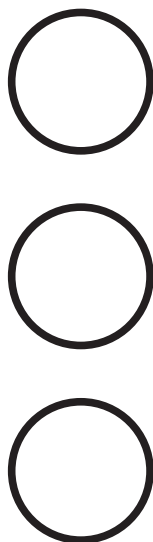
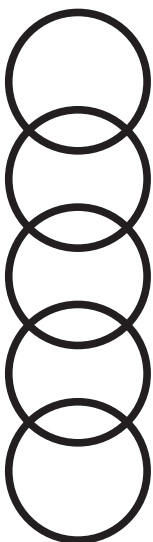


The plant and the butterfly are linked. They are part of an **ecosystem**. In an ecosystem, plants and animals are linked. Not all the ecosystems are the same. You are part of an ecosystem too.

From the story, you can tell that

- A. all ecosystems are the same
- B. you are not part of an ecosystem
- C. there are different kinds of ecosystems
- D. plants and animals are not linked in an ecosystem

Circle the diagram that shows things linked together.





Name _____ Date _____

Activity 2

There is only one mammal that can fly. It is the bat. A mammal is warm-blooded. Bats live in many places. They live on every continent but one. They do not live on Antarctica.

All bats are not the same. Some are big. Some are small. Some eat different things. They are part of different ecosystems.

Most bats eat insects. If all the bats were gone, what might happen?

- A. There would be more mammals.
- B. Ecosystems would stay the same.
- C. Many more insects would be bugging us.
- D. Mammals would stop eating different things.

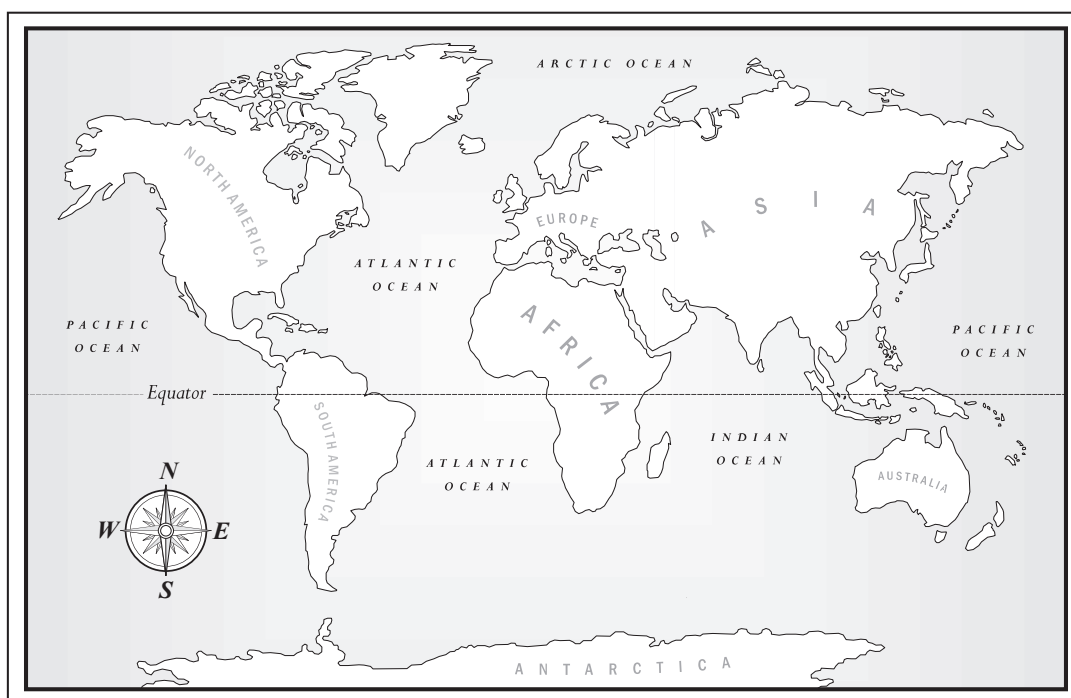
Why aren't bats in Antarctica?

- A. It is too warm, and the insects are too big.
- B. It is too cold, and all the insects are the same.
- C. It is too cold, and there is nothing for them to eat.
- D. It is too warm, and all the insects hide in the grass.



Find Antarctica on the map.

Is Antarctica north or south of the equator? _____





Name _____ Date _____

Activity 3

Think about how big you are. How much do you weigh? Now, think of two of you! Could you eat that much in one day? No way!

But some bats can. Some fruit bats live in Africa. They are part of an African ecosystem. It is a tropical forest ecosystem. These bats eat $2\frac{1}{2}$ times their weight in fruit!

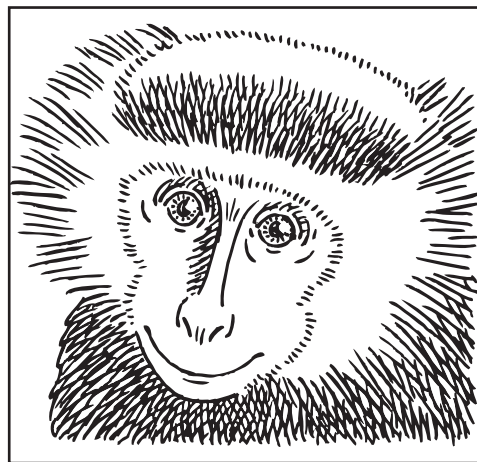
See how much a bat eats. Draw a box in the space below. This box shows how much a bat weighs.

Now, draw two and a half more boxes the same size as the first one. These boxes show how much of its weight a bat eats.



The bats fly from fruit to fruit. As they fly, they drop seeds. The seeds are from fruit. The seeds land on the ground. Later, the seeds grow. The bats are important. They help plants grow. They are an important part of the ecosystem.

Think about a monkey. Monkeys eat plants and fruit. How do bats help monkeys?



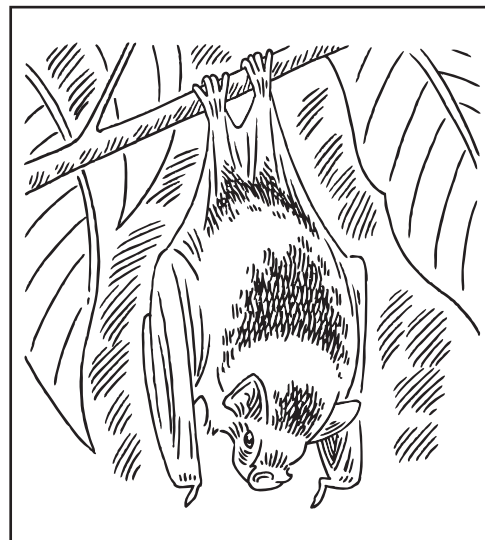


Name _____ Date _____

Activity 4

Bats need places to sleep. Bats need places to have their babies. Some bats live in caves. Some bats live in old barns. Some bats live in forests.

We need bats. But sometimes we make it hard for bats. We go into caves. We wake the bats when they need to sleep. We bother the bats when they have babies. Or, we knock down old barns. We chop down forests. The bats have no safe place to stay. By harming bats, we can harm an ecosystem.



From the story, you can tell that

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| A. all bats live in caves | C. ecosystems can be harmed |
| B. bats sleep all the time | D. bats do not need a safe place to stay |

Bats sleep hanging upside down.

Can you sleep hanging upside down?

Some bats sip nectar. They go from flower to flower. They spread pollen from flower to flower. This helps flowers make seeds. A nectar bat has a long tongue. How long? As long as its body!

Draw a nectar bat with its tongue out in the box below.

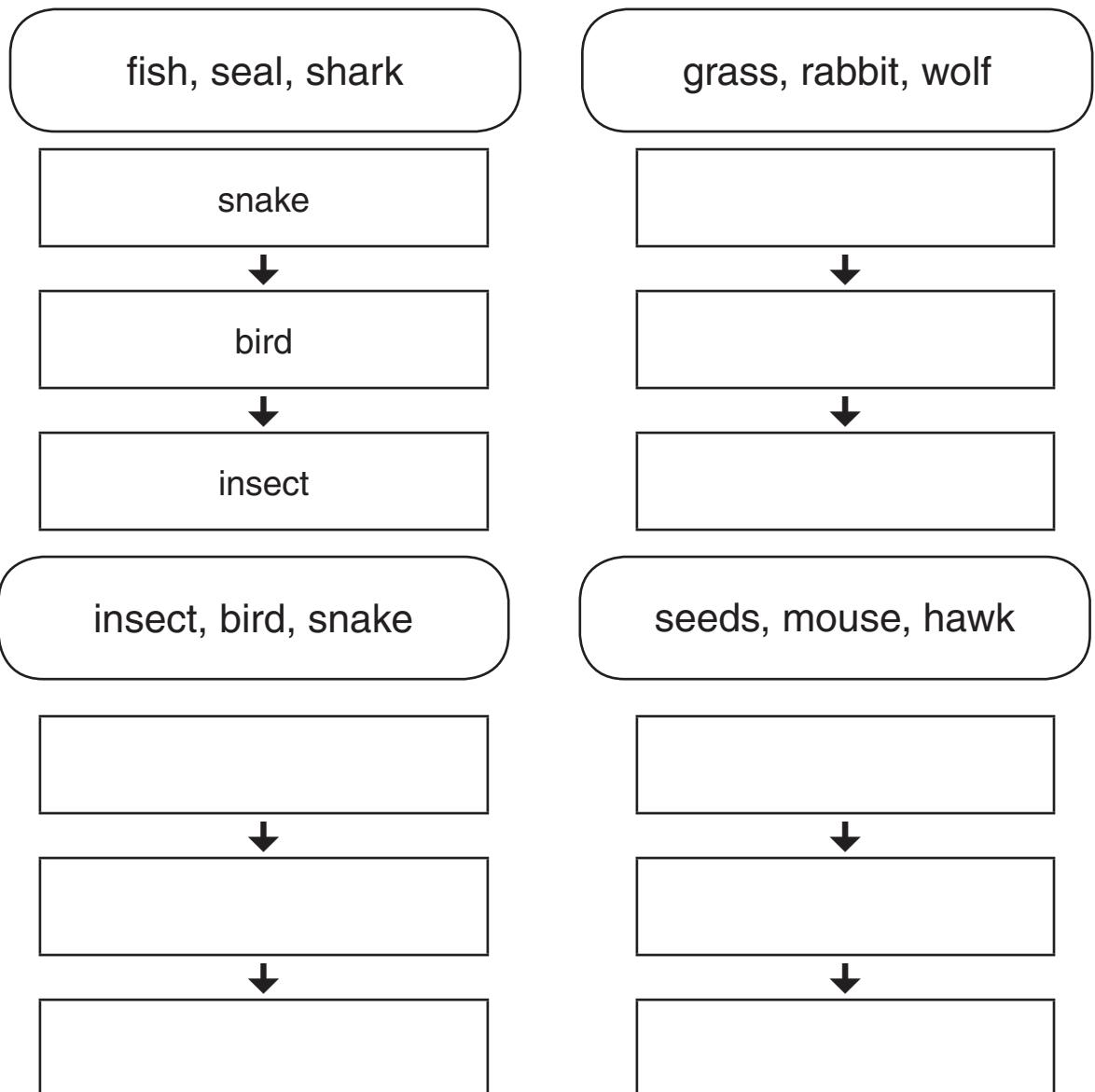




Name _____ Date _____

Activity 5

A **food chain** shows links. It shows what eats what. Not all food chains are the same. Each ecosystem has different food chains. Fill in the blanks for the different food chains. The first one has been done for you. It shows how snakes eat birds. It shows that birds eat insects. The snake is higher up on the food chain.



Which is higher on the food chain—a rabbit or a wolf? _____



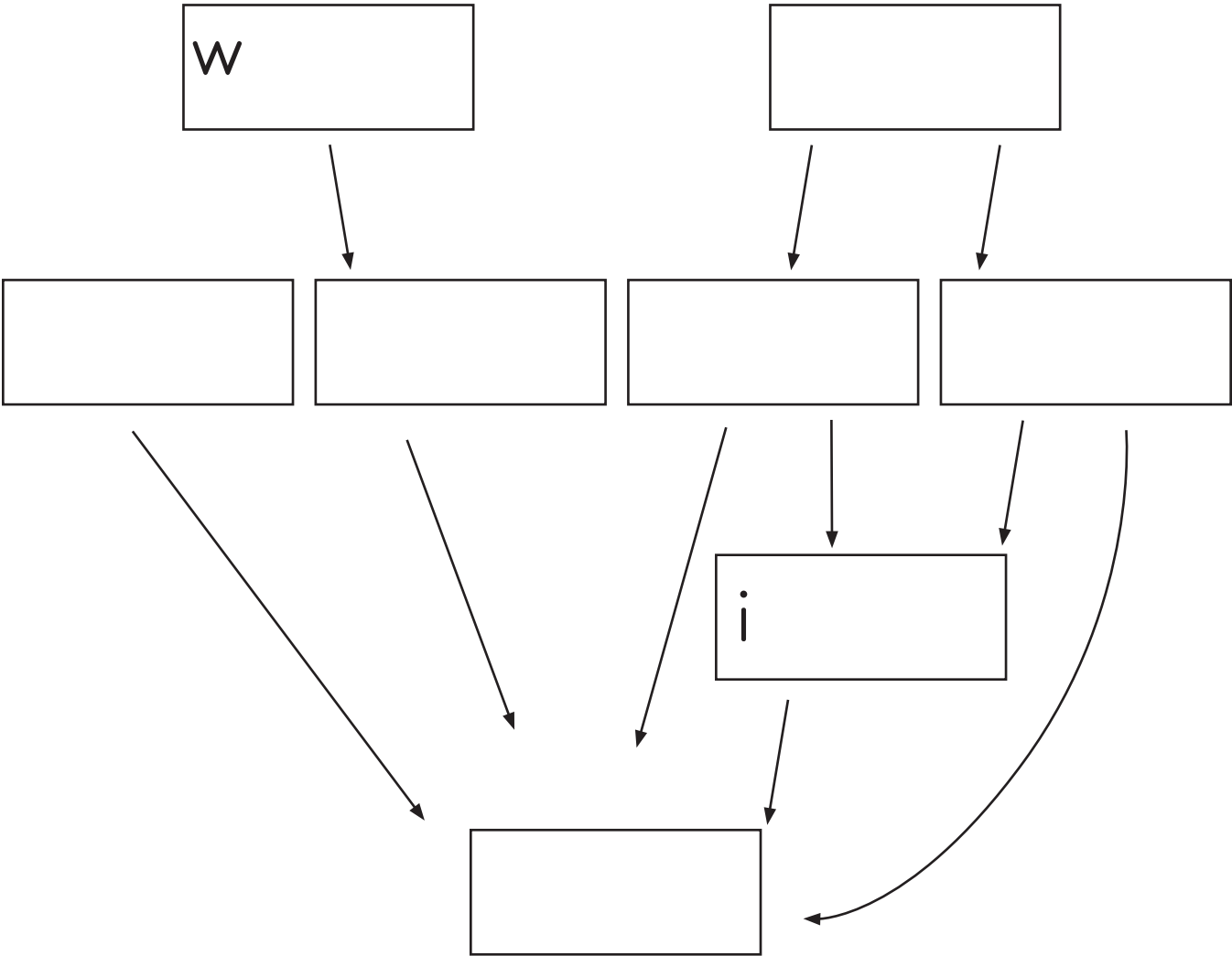
Name _____ Date _____

Activity 6

A **food web** is made up of food chains. A food web shows how food chains are linked. Fill in the blanks. The blanks show a food web. The food web shows how animals and plants are linked in an ecosystem.

Use the words below to fill in the blanks.

- grass
- mouse
- deer
- rabbit
- insect
- bird
- hawk
- wolf





Name _____ Date _____

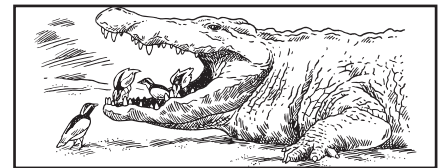
Activity 7

The Nile crocodile lives in the Nile River. It opens its mouth. A bird jumps in! The crocodile does not shut its mouth. It does not eat the bird. What is going on?

The bird is helping the crocodile. The bird is eating leeches in the crocodile's mouth. The leeches live in the Nile River. They get in the crocodile's mouth. They suck blood from the crocodile's gums. The crocodile cannot get them off. But the bird can! The bird eats the leeches! The crocodile is glad to get rid of the leeches. The bird is lucky to have a free dinner.

If it weren't for the crocodile, the bird would not be able to eat the leeches because

- A.** the leeches suck blood
- B.** the leeches live in water
- C.** the leeches would get in the bird's mouth
- D.** the leeches are not part of the ecosystem



On the map, find the Nile River.

The Nile River is on which continent? _____

The Nile River flows into which sea? _____

