

Background:

1. Again, what is an ecosystem?
2. How large or small can an ecosystem be?

Mono Lake Video

1. What two abiotic factors are the most important in the Mono lake ecosystem? (1/2 point)
2. Why are these two abiotic factors so important? (1/2 point)
3. What two or three organisms are the most important in the Mono lake ecosystem? (1/2 point)
4. What is the major issue concerning the well-being of the Mono lake ecosystem? (1/2 point)
5. Identify two biotic interactions that take place in the Mono lake ecosystem. (1 point)
6. Identify two examples of organisms interacting with the abiotic factors in the Mono Lake ecosystem. (1 point)

Food Chains and Food Webs

Background:

1. What is a food chain?
2. How do you draw a food chain?
3. What is a food web?
4. There are many "players" in food chains and food webs which can be described in several ways. Below are the terms for this process. Describe them.
Producers

Consumers

Herbivores (primary consumers)

Carnivores (second and third level consumers)

Decomposers

Procedure:

Using the Mono Lake cards and the arrows, put together a food web for Mono Lake.

Make sure you carefully arrange your food web according to the **"trophic level"**.

That means have all the producers on the bottom level, all the herbivores on the next level, and all the secondary consumers, the carnivores on the third level, with any third level consumers on the fourth level.

Have me **check** your food web. When the food web is correct, draw your food web below.

Make sure you **draw** in all the necessary **arrows**.

(1/3 point for each name correctly placed, and 1/3 point for each correct arrow. 9 points total)

Carnivores (Second level carnivores)
(Third level consumers)

Carnivores (First level carnivores)
(Second level consumers)

Herbivores
(Primary consumers)

Producers

Decomposers

Analysis:

Susan and Marco went to the science museum and saw an exhibit about trout. They learned that trout eat mayfly nymphs and dragonfly nymphs. They thought it was interesting that the dragonfly nymphs also eat the mayfly nymphs. The mayflies feed on algae growing on rocks in rivers. Some of the trout are caught by osprey that swoop down and pluck the trout out of the water with their talons.

Marco thought it would be fun to make a food web of the trout-stream ecosystem. When he showed it to Susan, she thought it needed a little more work.

1. What corrections do you think Susan suggested to Marco? **Show** them on the food web drawing. (1 point)

