Food webs and ecological pyramids

Teacher / technician

YEAR 11 / LESSON 106 / BIOLOGY + SCIENCE (DOUBLE AWARD)

Staff preparation and answer guidance. Keep separate from student sheets. Original learning tasks; no supplied numerical example represents class measurements.

Coverage and delivery

Shared Biology / Double Award: 4.6–4.8. Feeding relationships and transfer.

Allow about 60 minutes. Follow the student sequence and use the answers to check reasoning.

Requisition • class of 30, working in 15 pairs

Item	Per pair / setup	Class total
Student booklets	1 per learner	30
Organism cards and blank pyramid templates	1 set per pair	15 sets
Rulers	1 per pair	15

Immediate safety

Paper, modelling and written reasoning only. No chemicals or biological samples are handled.

Preparation and delivery

Read alongside the student method

YEAR 11 / LESSON 106 / BIOLOGY + SCIENCE (DOUBLE AWARD)

1. Provide 30 booklets, 15 rulers and 15 sets of organism cards and blank pyramid templates.

2. Keep answers separate until learners have attempted the tasks; discuss the reasons for corrections.

3. Put the stated organisms and feeding links on cards. Supply separate blank number, biomass and energy-transfer pyramid templates; do not substitute organism counts for measured biomass or energy.

Close of lesson

• Return models and keep the corrected work.

Check before teaching

Check the cards, reference data and quantities against this requisition. Keep the staff answer guide separate until the checking stage. Supplied numerical practice datasets are labelled examples; they are not class measurements.

Answers and teaching notes

Expected explanations • do not give as experimental observations

YEAR 11 / LESSON 106 / BIOLOGY + SCIENCE (DOUBLE AWARD)

- From food to consumer.
- An organism making organic substances from inorganic sources, commonly by photosynthesis.
- Yes.
- Dead organic material and wastes from different trophic levels.
- One large producer can support many small consumers.
- No; energy flows and is eventually dissipated as heat.

References and provenance

Pearson Biology specification

Prepared 22 November 2026. Original wording, tables and questions. Sources inform the concepts and technique; the lesson scope and classroom quantities are explicitly described here. No laboratory trial or final school risk approval is claimed.