Desert Biome - Create a Food Chain

Medium Predators - Tertiary Consumers
- Carnivores
- Omnivores
- Bobcat
- Coyote
- Badger
- Kit Fox

Small Predators - Secondary Consumers
- Carnivores
- Insectivores
- Tarantula
- Scorpion
- Spadefoot Toad
- Roadrunner
- Chihuahuan Raven
- Diamondback Rattlesnake

Herbivores - Primary Consumers
- Navada Buckmoth Caterpillar
- Darkling Beetle
- SW Plateau Lizards
- Apache Pocket Mouse
- Kangaroo Rat
- Desert Cottontail
- Jackrabbit

Plants - Producers
- Cottonwood
- Soaptree Yucca
- Skunkbush Sumac
- Wild Grasses
- Annual Flowers

Decomposers
- Soil Bacteria
- Nematodes
- Protozoans
- Fungi

White Sands National Monument
Revised 12/19/2015
Food Web in a Desert Biome

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- Toads
- Birds
- Snakes

**Food Chains**
A food chain is a series of steps in which organisms transfer energy by eating and being eaten.

**Consumers**
- Herbivores eat only plants.
- Carnivores eat only animals.
- Omnivores eat plants and animals.
- Insectivores eat only insects.
- Decomposers break down organic matter. These include bacteria and fungi.

Most animals are part of more than one food chain and eat more than one kind of food in order to meet their food and energy requirements.

A change in the size of one population in a food chain will affect other populations.

This interdependence within a food chain helps to maintain the balance of plant and animal populations within a ecosystem.

These interconnected food chains form a food web. A food web links all the food chains in an ecosystem together.