



ENGLISH SPEAKING CLUB

WILD LIFE



1. Spark-up

Secondary Consumers

A fish, caught by a heron in Nokomis, Florida, has another fish in its mouth. These secondary consumers in the food chain prey on other organisms. Producers, such as plants, create their own nutrients, while primary consumers, also called herbivores, rely on producers for food.

Sundew

A fruit fly is trapped in the sticky tentacles of a sundew plant. Sundews are carnivores, meaning they consume other organisms for food.

Hyena

Hyenas are a specialized type of carnivore called a scavenger. Scavengers consume the bodies of animals the scavenger did not kill. Most hyenas are also hunters.

2. Language Exposure

Carnivores

A carnivore is an organism, in most cases an animal, that eats meat. A carnivorous animal that hunts other animals is called a predator; an animal that is hunted is called prey.

An animal's diet determines where it falls on the food chain, a sequence of organisms that provide energy and nutrients for other organisms. Each food chain consists of several trophic levels, which describe an organism's role in an ecosystem. Carnivores and omnivores occupy the third trophic level. An omnivore, such as a human, is an organism that eats plants and animals.

Many carnivores get their energy and nutrients by eating herbivores, omnivores, and other carnivores. The animals that eat secondary consumers, like owls that eat rodents, are known as tertiary consumers. Carnivores that have no natural predators are known as apex predators; they occupy the top of the food chain.

Not all carnivores are predators. Some carnivores, known as scavengers, feed on the carcasses of already-dead animals. Vultures, for example, are scavengers.

Carnivores are divided into three different categories based on what percentage of their diet consists of meat. Animals that get 70 percent or more of their nutrition from meat are called obligate carnivores or hypercarnivores. Animals whose diet consists of about 50 percent meat are called mesocarnivores. Animals whose diet is only about 30 percent meat are called hypocarnivores.

Carnivores vary in shape and size, but they often share similar traits. For example, most carnivores have sharp teeth adapted for capturing prey and tearing flesh. Additionally, many carnivores have relatively large brains. Carnivores also have a single stomach chamber and a simple digestive system, unlike herbivores, who often have a stomach with multiple chambers and a specialized digestive system.

Not all carnivores are animals. There are about 600 species of carnivorous plants, the most well-known being the Venus flytrap (*Dionaea muscipula*). Most carnivorous plants consume insects, but some larger plants feast on small animals, such as frogs or mice.

Carnivores play an important role in keeping ecosystems balanced. Predators keep populations of prey species from becoming too large. Scavengers like vultures help prevent diseases from spreading by eating the remains of dead animals.

National Geographic



New words	Spelling	Meaning	Examples
Carnivore (n)	/ˈkɑːr.nə.vɔːr/	Organism that eats meat.	Lions and tigers are carnivores.
Ecosystem (n)	/ˈiː.kou.sis.təm/	Community and interactions of living and nonliving things in an area.	They are working to preserve the delicately balanced ecosystem of these wetlands.
Food chain (n)	/fuːd tʃeɪn/	Group of organisms linked in order of the food they eat	The contaminated poultry carcasses enter the human food chain.
Omnivore (n)	/ˈɑːm.nɪ.vɔːr/	Organism that eats a variety of organisms, including plants, animals, and fungi.	When omnivores kick the meat habit, they lose an average of 10 to 22 lb.
Predator (n)	/ˈpred.ə.tə-/	Animals that hunts other animals for food.	The population got out of control because there were no natural predators to keep it in check.
Prey (n)	/preɪ/	Animal that is hunted and eaten by other animals.	A hawk hovered in the air before swooping on its prey.
Vulture (n)	/ˈvʌl.tʃə-/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bird that mostly eats dead animals. A vulture is also someone who is eager to get some advantage from other people's difficulties or weaknesses. 	When a company is in crisis like this, the vultures are always hovering.
Trait (n)	/treɪt/	A particular characteristic that can produce a particular type of behaviour	His sense of humour is one of his better traits.
Carcass (n)	/ˈkɑːr.kəs/	The body of a dead animal	Vultures flew around in the sky waiting to pick at the rotting carcass of the deer.
Chamber (n)	/ˈtʃeɪm.bə-/	A room used for a special or official purpose	Meetings of the council are held in the council chamber.
Digestive system (n)	/daɪˈdʒes.tɪv ˈsis.təm/	The organs in your body involved with the digestion of food	The digestive system of the lion is such that it cannot receive nourishment saved through meat.
Remains (n)	/rɪˈmeɪnz/	Pieces or parts of something that continue to exist when most of it has been used, destroyed, or taken away	The remains of lunch were still on the table.
Determine (v)	/dɪˈtɜː.mɪn/	To control or influence something directly, or to decide what will happen	The number of staff we can take on will be determined by how much money we're allowed to spend.
Consist (v)	/kənˈsɪst/	To be made of or formed from something	The team consists of four Europeans and two Americans.
Occupy (v)	/ˈɑː.kjə.paɪ/	To fill, exist in, or use a place or period of time	The rest of the time was occupied with writing a report.
Vary (v)	/ˈveə.ri/	If things of the same type vary, they are different from each other, and if you vary them, you cause them to be different from each other	The samples varied in quality but were generally acceptable.
Adapt (v)	/əˈdæpt/	To change, or to change something, to suit different conditions or uses	Many software companies have adapted popular programs to the new operating system.
Feast (v)	/fiːst/	To eat a lot of good food and enjoy it very much	The two of us feasted on smoked salmon.
Well-known (a)	/ˌwel ˈnəʊn/	Known or recognized by many people	It is well-known that he never gives interviews.
Relatively (adv)	/ˈrel.ə.tɪv.li/	Quite good, bad, etc. in comparison with other similar things or with what you expect	He's a relatively good squash player.



4. Discussion

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PART 1

Wild animals

- Have you ever seen any wild animals before?
- What wild animal do you like the most?
- Do you like to go to the zoo?
- Have you ever kept a pet?

Plants

- Do you like plants?
- Have you ever grow a plant as a child?
- Would you ever give a plant as a gift?
- Why do people like plants in their house?

PART 2



Describe a wild animal from your country.

You should say:

- what the animal is
- what it looks like
- where it lives
- and explain how people in your country (or you) feel about this animal.

PART 3

- What effects do you think humans have on wild animals?
- What measures could we take to protect wildlife?
- Is it the responsibility of schools to teach children about protecting wildlife?
- Do you think people should protect wild life?