



Marsh Food Web Rummy

Adapted from *Welcome to the Wetlands* and
BTNEP/LSU AgCenter: *Wetland Functions, Values, and Economic Resources*

Focus/Overview

This activity is for small groups to play as a supplement to other food web activities or lessons.

Learning Objective

The learner will...

- classify wetland organisms into groups of producers, herbivores, carnivores, omnivores, scavengers and detritivores.

Louisiana Grade Level Expectations (Science)

2: GLE-46	Illustrate and describe a simple food chain located within an ecosystem (SE-E-A2).
4: GLE 71	Describe and explain food chains/webs and the directional flow of energy in various ecosystems (e.g. construct a model, drawing, diagram, graphic organizer) (SE-E-A2).
5: GLE 23	Construct food chains that could be found in ponds, marshes, oceans, forests, or meadows (LS-M-C2).

Materials List

- Wetland Webs organism cards made by the students in Activity 2-4 of this guide
- Wetland Webs Organism List from Activity 2-04 of this guide.

Background Information

Food webs can include complex interactions between a wide variety of organisms. By playing this game students will learn about the variety of possible food webs that can exist in an ecosystem.

Advance Preparation

1. Retrieve or make the Wetland Webs organism cards from Activity 2-04 of this guide. You will need at least 48 cards for the game.

Marsh Rummy Card Game Directions and Rules

Number of players: 2, 3, or 4.

Object of the game: To make sets of *producers, herbivores, carnivores, scavengers* and *detritivores*.

1. Deal 8 cards to each player.
2. Place the rest of the cards face down on the table.
3. Turn the top card on the pile face up and place it next to the pile to begin the discard pile.
4. Player 1 (to the left of the dealer) takes a card from the pile (or from the discard pile).
5. Player 1 tries to make a set of three or more cards belonging to one of the wetland food web groups. When successful, he or she places the rummy face up on the table. Other players may then add to these cards in the course of the game.
6. After Player 1 plays his or her cards, he or she discards one card face up on the discard pile.
7. Player 2 takes a turn and play continues through the other players.
8. The first player to set down all cards is the winner.

BTNEP Connection

Living Resources

Grade Level

2, 4, 5

Duration

20-45 minutes

Subject Area

science

Setting

classroom

Vocabulary

producers, herbivores, carnivores, omnivores, scavengers and detritivores, food web

Original Source

Adapted from *Welcome to the Wetlands* and "Marsh Rummy Card Game" in BTNEP/LSU AgCenter: *Wetland Functions, Values, and Economic Resources*, Activity 5.



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Blackline Master

1. Wetland Webs Organism List from **Activity 2-04** of this guide

Assessment

- Students should correctly group organisms into the proper wetland food web group.

Resources

Tradebooks:

Kalman, Bobbie D. 1998. **What are Food Chains and Webs?** Crabtree Publishing Company. 32pp
ISBN: 0865058881

A simple introduction to food chains and webs, featuring both herbivores and carnivores and discussing energy, food production, and decomposition in various ecosystems. Age Range: 7 to 8.

Lauber, Patricia. 1994. **Who Eats What? Food Chains and Food Webs.** HarperCollins Publishers. 32 pp. ISBN: 0064451305

An award-winning author and artist explain how every link in a food chain is important because each living thing depends on others for survival. Age Range: 5 to 9. Outstanding Science Trade Books for Children 1996 (NSTA/CBC)

Websites and CD:

Louisiana Wetland Functions and Values CD developed by LSU AgCenter's Extension Service in conjunction with the U.S. Geological Survey's National Wetlands Center and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). To receive a copy, contact DNR (800/ 267-4019) or order on the Internet at <http://www.lacoast.gov>.