

# Annoying-insect food wheel!

Yes, these annoying biting insects do have a point. Make a food wheel to show how they are incredibly important in food chains.

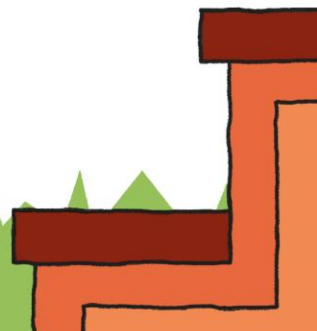
## How to make a food wheel

### Instructions



#### You will need -

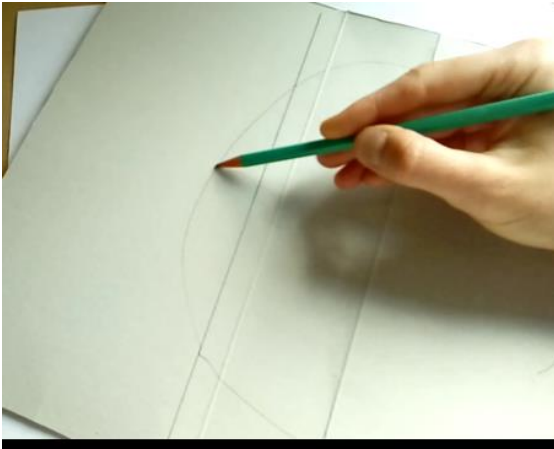
- A piece of cardboard (like a cereal box)
- Blu-tac
- Pencil
- Pencil crayons
- Marker pen
- String
- A pair of scissors



# Food wheel – step 1 and 2



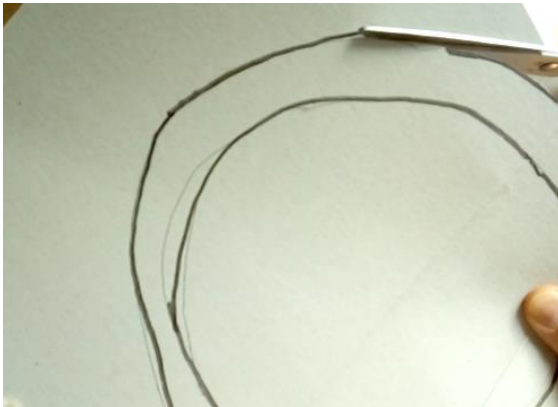
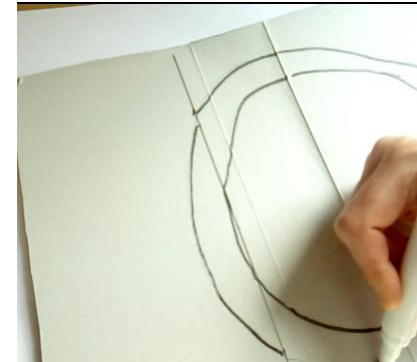
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## Step 1

Draw a large circle on a piece of cardboard. Draw a second circle inside the first.

It should look like this....



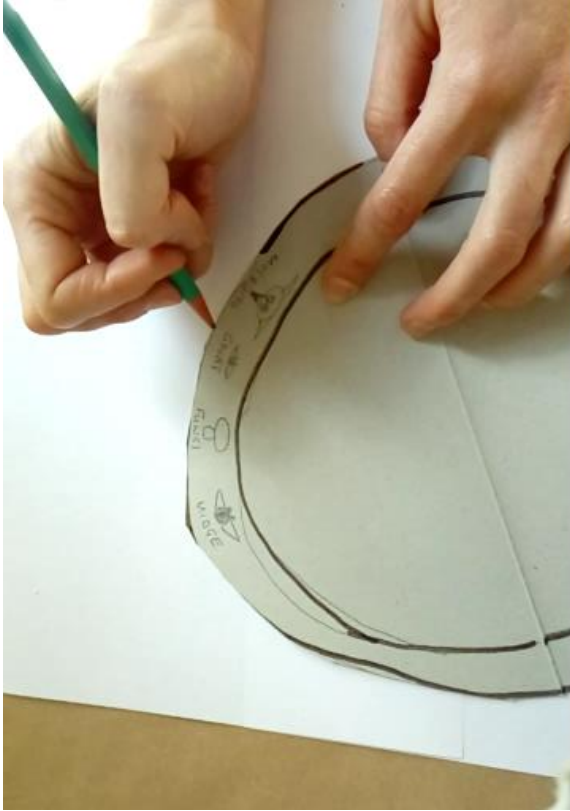
## Step 2

Carefully cut out your circle following the outer line.

It should look like this....



# Food wheel – Step 3



Draw the animals, birds, insects and plants on to your food chain wheel.

They are –

1. Horsefly
2. Flower
3. Bee
4. Blue tit
5. Gnat
6. Kestrel
7. Midge
8. Spider
9. Swallow
10. Stoat
11. Swallow
12. Bloodworm
13. Fish
14. Heron
15. Mosquito
16. Bat

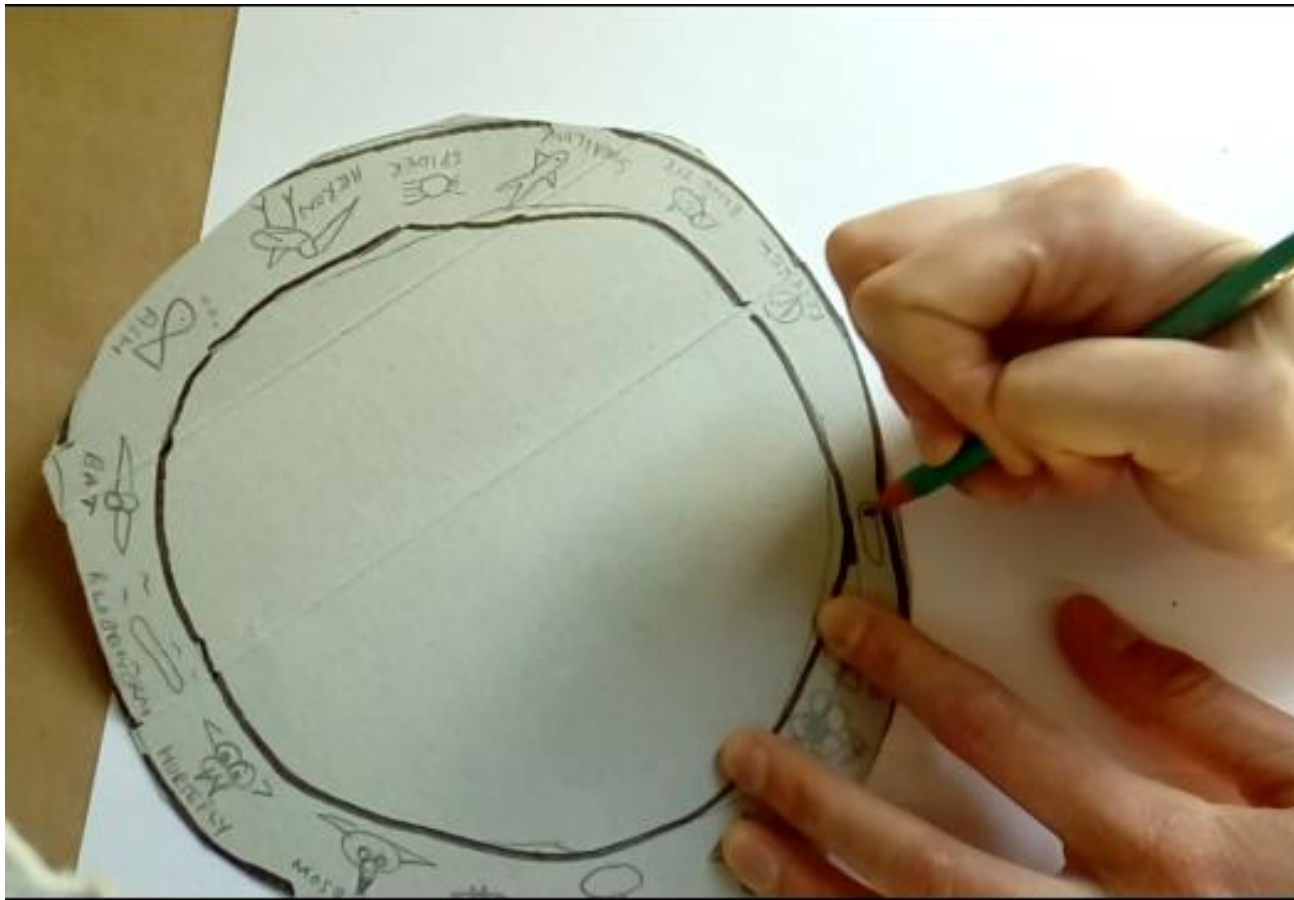
Top tip!  
Search for pictures  
on the internet to  
help you or look in  
nature books.



# Food wheel – Step 4

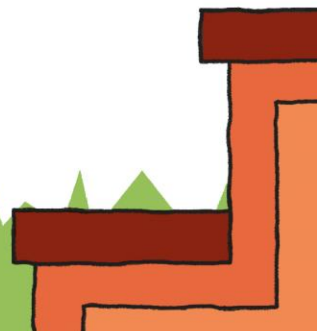


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Here is the finished wheel.

Now colour it in!



# Food wheel – Step 5



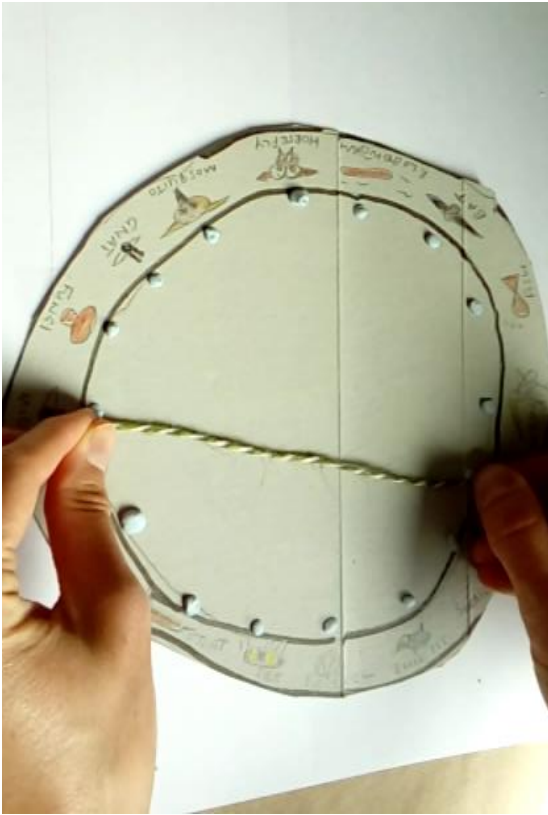
Your food chain wheel should look like this.

For every picture you have drawn, add a blob of blu-tac next to it.

# Food wheel – Step 6



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1. Cut different lengths of string

2. Look at the food chain below

MIDGE – SPIDER – SWALLOW - KESTREL

The dashes (-) show you who is eaten by who. The midge is eaten by the spider (Midge – Spider). The spider is eaten by the swallow (Spider- Swallow) etc.

3. Find the midge on your food wheel

4. The midge is eaten by the spider. Add a piece of string between the midge and the spider. Use the blu-tac to hold it in place

5. The spider is eaten by the swallow. Add a piece of string between them.

6. Then join up the swallow to the kestrel.

These animals are joined together and they need the annoying midges so they can all survive!

# Food wheel – Step 7



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Wow! Look at how all these animals are connected.

Even more than that, they all have those annoying biting insects as part of their food chain.

Can you complete more of your food wheel using these chains below?

1. Horsefly – Flower – Bee
2. Midge – Bloodworm – Fish – Heron
3. Flower – Mosquito – Bat
4. Fungi – Gnat – Blue tit – Stoat
5. Midge – Spider – Swallow - Kestrel



# Food wheel – Step 7



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## Fun Facts!

### Horsefly – Flower – Bee

Horseflies feed on nectar in flowers. Whilst they do this they carry out pollination (transfer of pollen between flowers). This helps flowers to make seeds to grow new flowers. Without these flowers, bees wouldn't be able to find nectar to feed on too.

### Midge – Bloodworm – Fish – Heron

A bloodworm is a baby midge. It starts its life cycle under water. It is an important food for fish.

### Fungi – Gnat – Blue tit – Stoat

Gnats help to decompose (break down) dead fungi. This stops our world filling up with lots of dead things and helps to keep the soil healthy too by returning fungi to the ground.

# Food wheel – Step 8



## Bonus challenge

When you have made your food wheel can you....

1. Turn into a food web! A food web shows you how lots of different animals are joined together through multiple food chains.
2. Can you see anymore food chains within your food web. Does a spider eat more than one annoying insect? Does a blue tit eat more than one too?

# Food wheel – Step 9



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## Extra challenge

1. Can you now tell someone in your family about your food wheel
  - What does your food wheel show?
  - What food chains are there?
  - What reason are mosquitoes, horseflies and midges important?

If they really don't believe you that these annoying insects are important, start breaking your string food chains. This will show them how the other amazing wildlife will not have anything to eat!