

Name:

Date:

7TH GRADE READING COMPREHENSION

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions.

Ecosystems and Food Chains

An ecosystem is a community of living and non-living things that interact with one another. In every ecosystem, organisms depend on each other for survival, often forming food chains. A food chain shows the path of energy as it moves from one organism to another. For example, in a forest ecosystem, grass is eaten by a rabbit, which is then eaten by a fox. If one part of the food chain is disrupted, it affects the whole ecosystem.

1. What is an ecosystem, and why are food chains important within it?

2. Define "organism" and give two examples from a forest ecosystem.

3. How does energy move through a food chain?

4. Why might a disruption in a food chain have a significant impact on an ecosystem?

5. Imagine a species in a food chain goes extinct. Describe how this might affect other organisms in that ecosystem.
