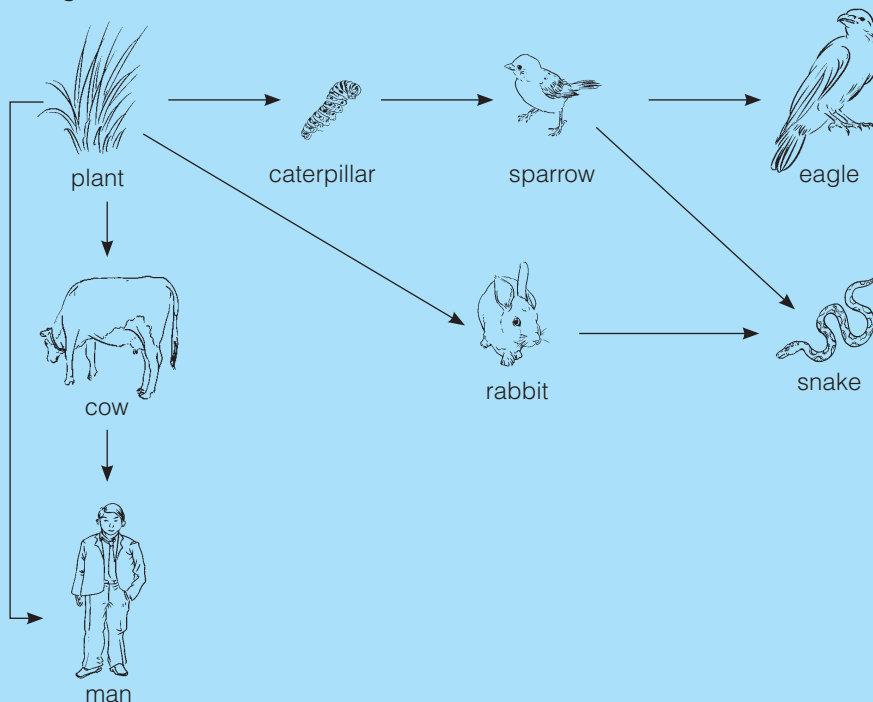


Food Chains and Food Webs

- **Plants** are the only **food producers** because they are able to **make food using the sun's energy**.
- **Consumers eat plants or animals** to get stored energy that they need.
- Consumers can be divided into **herbivores (plant eaters)**, **carnivores (animal eaters)** and **omnivores (plant-and-animal eaters)**.
- A **food chain** shows a food relationship or energy transfer between different organisms.

plant $\xrightarrow{\text{is eaten by}}$ caterpillar $\xrightarrow{\text{is eaten by}}$ frog $\xrightarrow{\text{is eaten by}}$ snake $\xrightarrow{\text{is eaten by}}$ owl

- A **food web** has interconnected food chains which show the interdependence of a group of organisms.



- Decomposers help to break down dead matter and animal wastes into mineral salts, water and carbon dioxide.
- Scavengers are animals that feed on dead organisms. They help to speed up the rate of decomposition.