



### Food chains and webs (suitable for 7 - 12 year olds)

Using this Discovery card, children can learn about feeding relationships.

You might like to begin by exploring the relationships in a simple food chain.

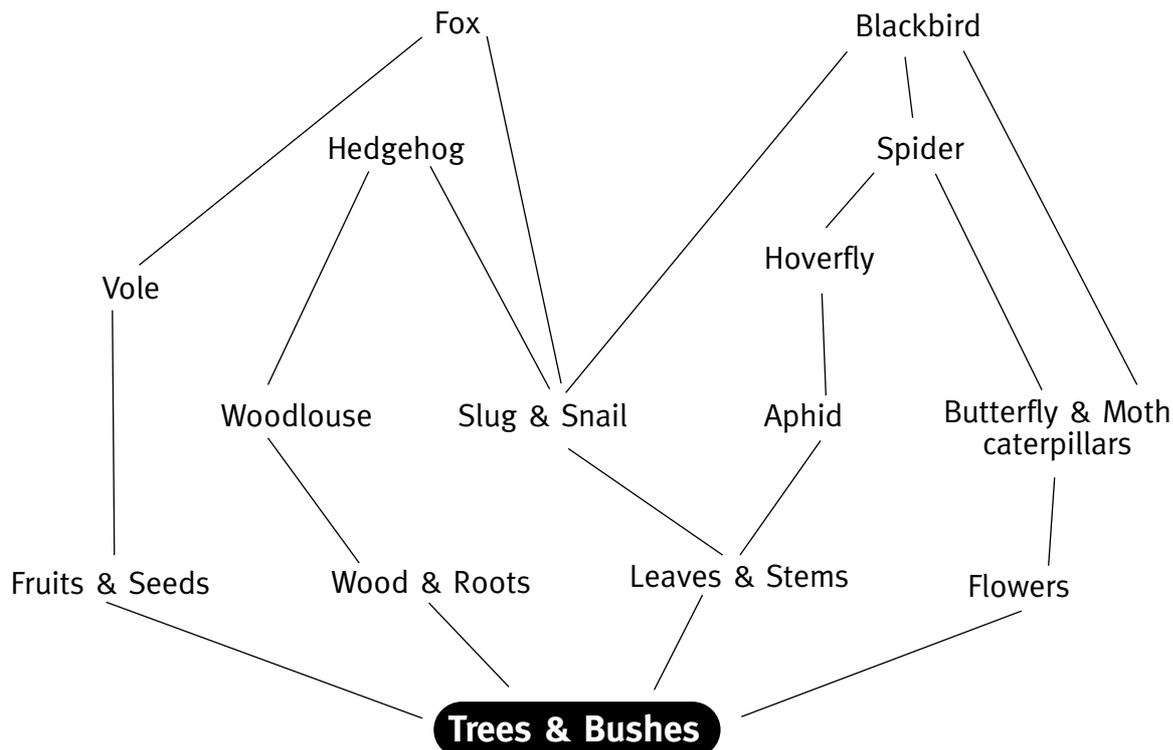
Here are some key points to help you:

- Green plants get their energy from the sun. They can change light energy into chemical energy in food. They are known as the **primary producers**.
- Animals which eat only plants are called **herbivores**.
- Animals which eat only meat are called **carnivores**.
- Some animals eat both meat and plants. They are called **omnivores**.

A food chain indicates **what feeds on what**, it also shows how energy flows from one living thing to another. A chain will always start with a plant (a primary producer).

In any habitat, lots of different food chains will be present and many will be interlinked forming food webs. An example of some of the links in a **woodland habitat** food web is given below.

#### A Woodland Habitat Food Web



### Using the Discovery sheets

- Discovery sheet 5a **Who eats what?** asks the children to fill in the gaps in two food chains, drawing and labeling their animals. The missing link in chain A could be a snail or a caterpillar. The missing link in chain B could be a spider.
- Discovery sheet 5b **Complete the web** asks children to make decisions about what eats what and to draw in the missing lines.
- Alternatively children can colour and cut out some of the illustrations from the Discovery sheet 5c **Making a mobile** and use them to construct their own food chain mobile.

#### For this activity you will need;

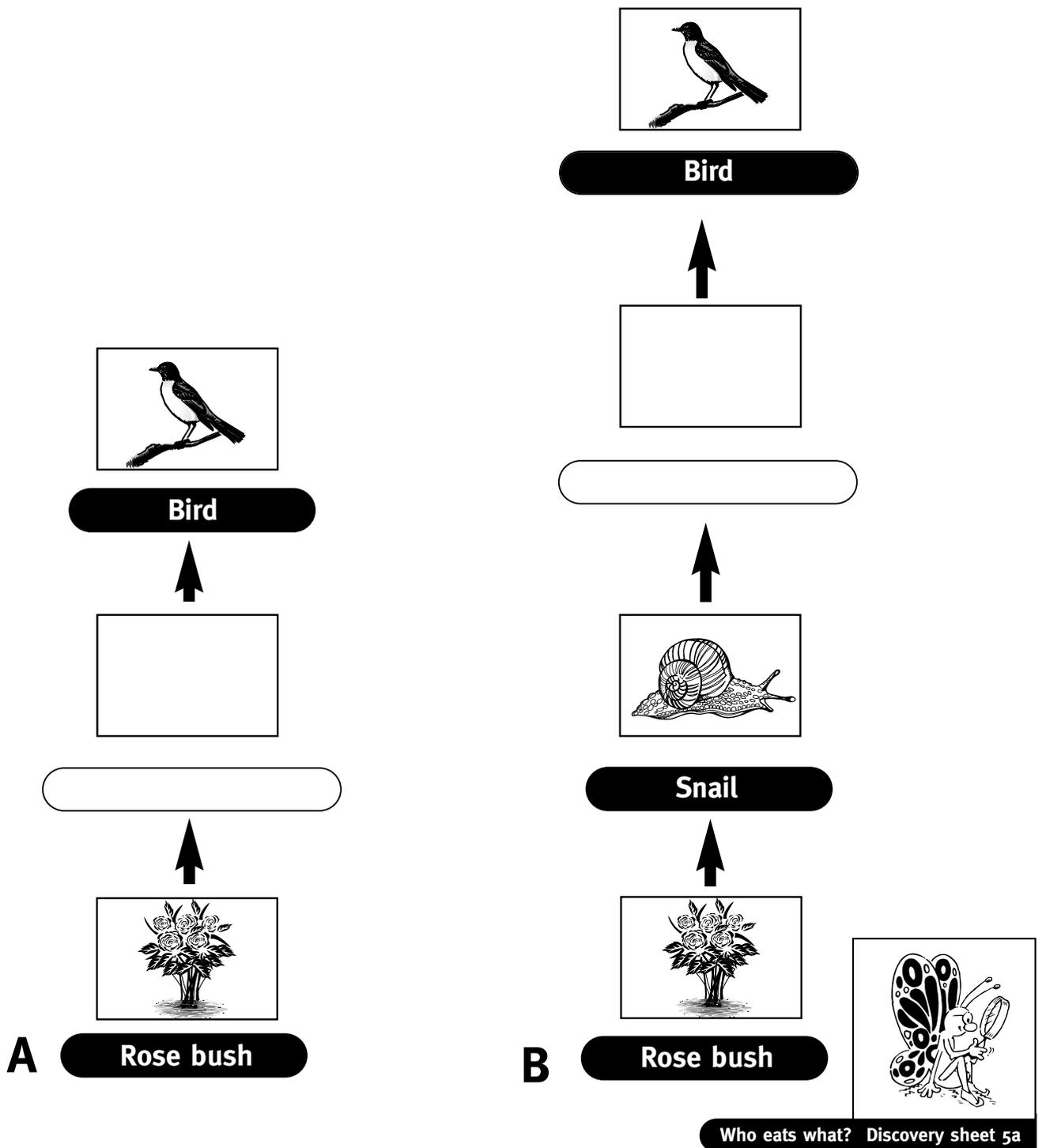
- scissors
- colouring pencils
- sticky tape
- pipe cleaners or straws
- string
- a photocopy of the pictures/boxes on sheet 5c (x2)

As an **extension** to this activity, children may add their own choices to their mobile and/or construct a staggered mobile.

# Who eats what?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

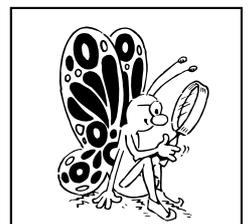
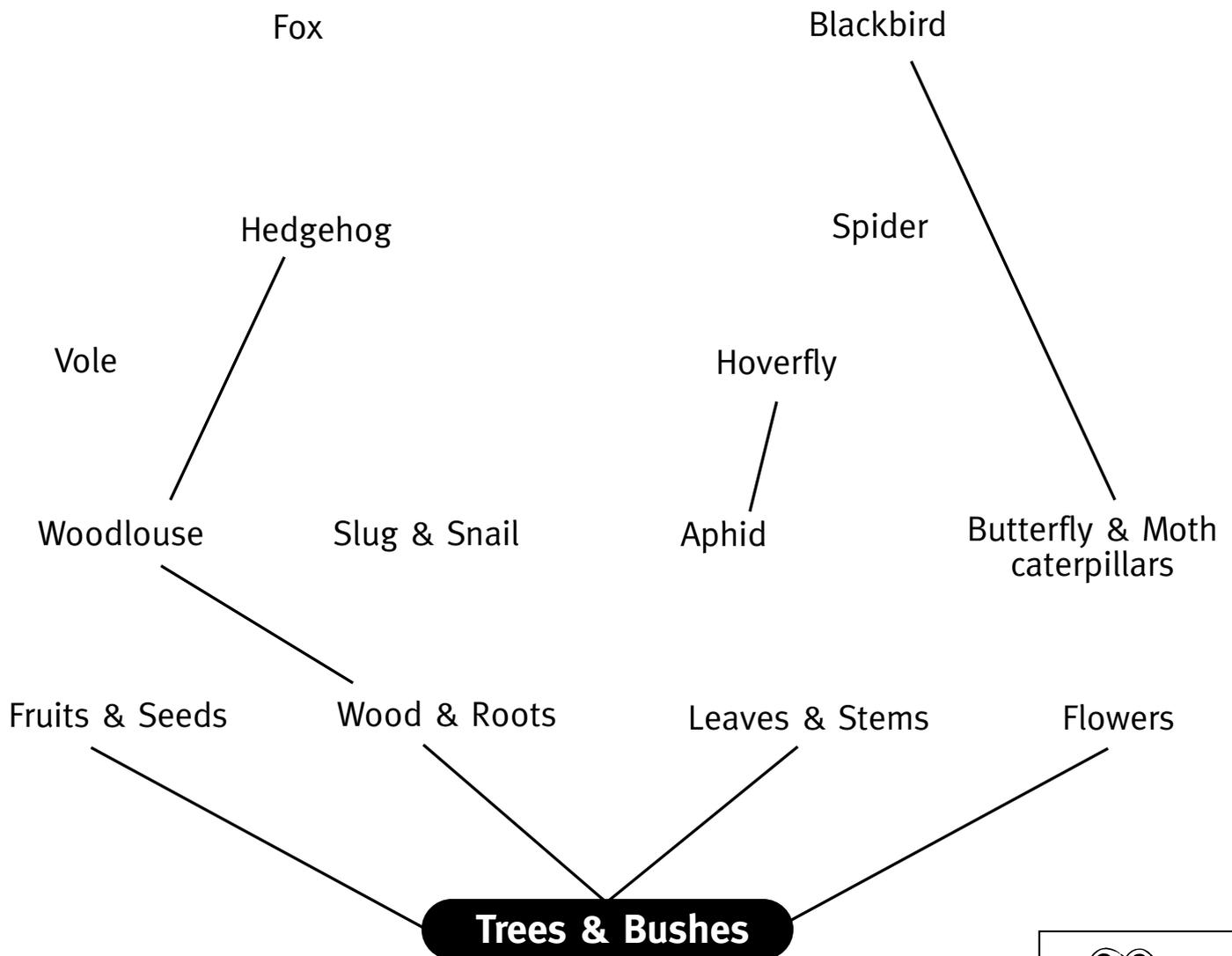
Which animals are missing from these food chains? Draw a picture of the animal in each box and label it.



# Complete the web

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this woodland habitat food web. Some of the links have been drawn in already. Can you add the rest? Try adding some of your own choices and linking them to the rest of the food web.



# Making a mobile

## You will need

- scissors
- colouring pencils
- sticky tape
- pipe cleaners or straw
- string
- a photocopy of the pictures/boxes on this sheet (x2) to stick back to back on the strings.

## What to do

Look at the pictures on this sheet. Decide who eats what and then cut out a selection of the pictures to make your mobile. You could also draw some animals and plants of your own and add these to your mobile. Stick your pictures back to back on your string to form a food chain. Remember each chain must start with a plant. Plants are primary producers. When you have made several food chains, hang them from a square frame made of straws or pipe cleaners.

