Preliminary Model Rubric

Please note that in the preliminary rubric, we are not focusing exclusively on scientific accuracy but on the students’ efforts to make sense of food webs.

Students should include at least 10 different organisms in the food web. 3 Points

All organisms are labeled in the food web 3 Points

Arrows depicting the flow of energy are shown in the food web. 3 Points

Students include the Sun in the food web 2 Points

Students include a plant in the food web 2 Points

Students include a primary consumer in the food web. 2 Points

Students include a secondary consumer in the food web. 2 Points

Food web is aesthetically pleasing and easy to follow 3 Points

Total **20 points**

Final Model Rubric

Please note that students are expected to demonstrate their understanding of scientific concepts in this model and will be graded based on the accuracy of their understanding as well as their ability to create a conceptual model.

Model includes at least 10 organisms as well as the Sun. 5 Points

Model includes producers and primary, secondary, and tertiary consumers 5 Points

Model includes a key or another form of labelling allowing the reader to

know which organisms are producers, consumers, etc. 5 Points

Relative abundance of each organism is indicated and accurately reflects how the

loss of energy results in there being fewer organisms at higher trophic levels 5 Points

Model uses arrows to demonstrate the flow of energy and energy loss

is shown at each trophic level 5 Points

Model includes a written explanation for how energy flows through a food web 10 Points

The written explanation addresses how energy enters the food web through

photosynthesis 5 Points

The written explanation accurately explains how consumers obtain energy 5 Points

The written explanation explains how energy is lost at each trophic level 5 Points

The written explanation ties back into the driving question (Why isn’t every

animal a carnivore?) and provides a logical answer to that question. 5 Points

Model is aesthetically pleasing and easy to follow 5 Points

**Total Points 60 Points**