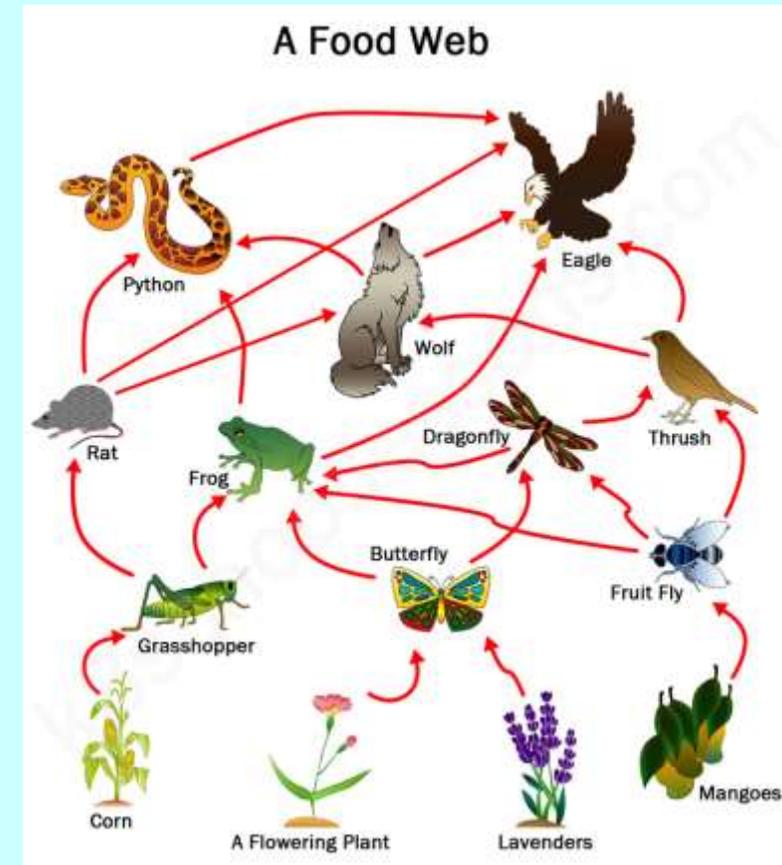
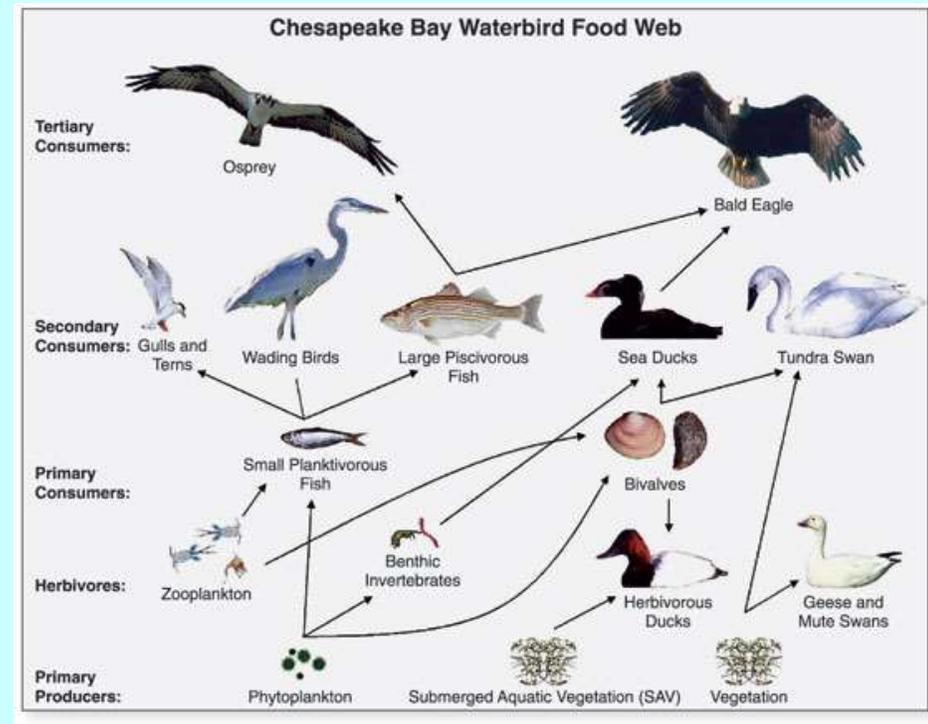
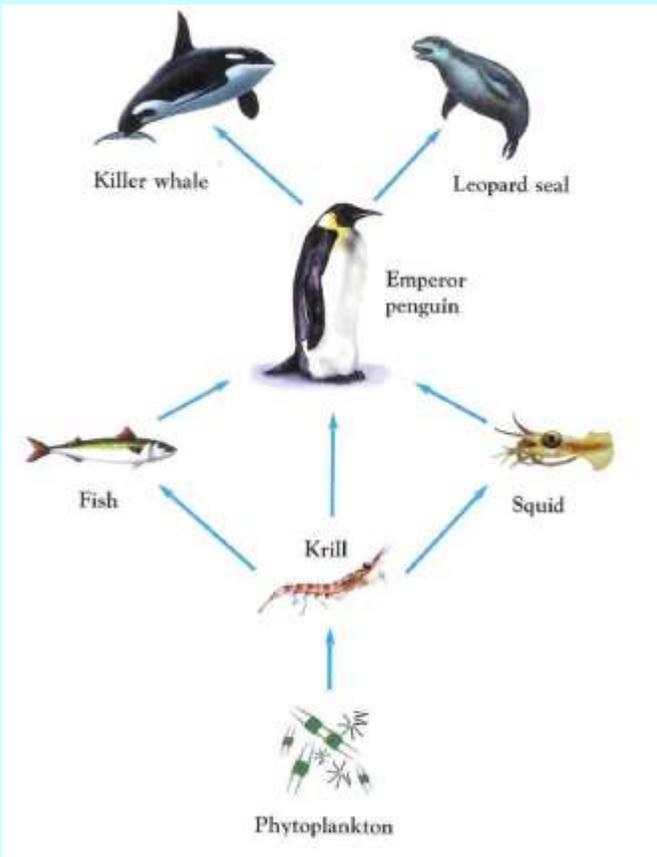


A food chain is linear.

A food web is a number of interconnected food chains.



**Could a polar bear  
survive in the wild  
in Africa?**



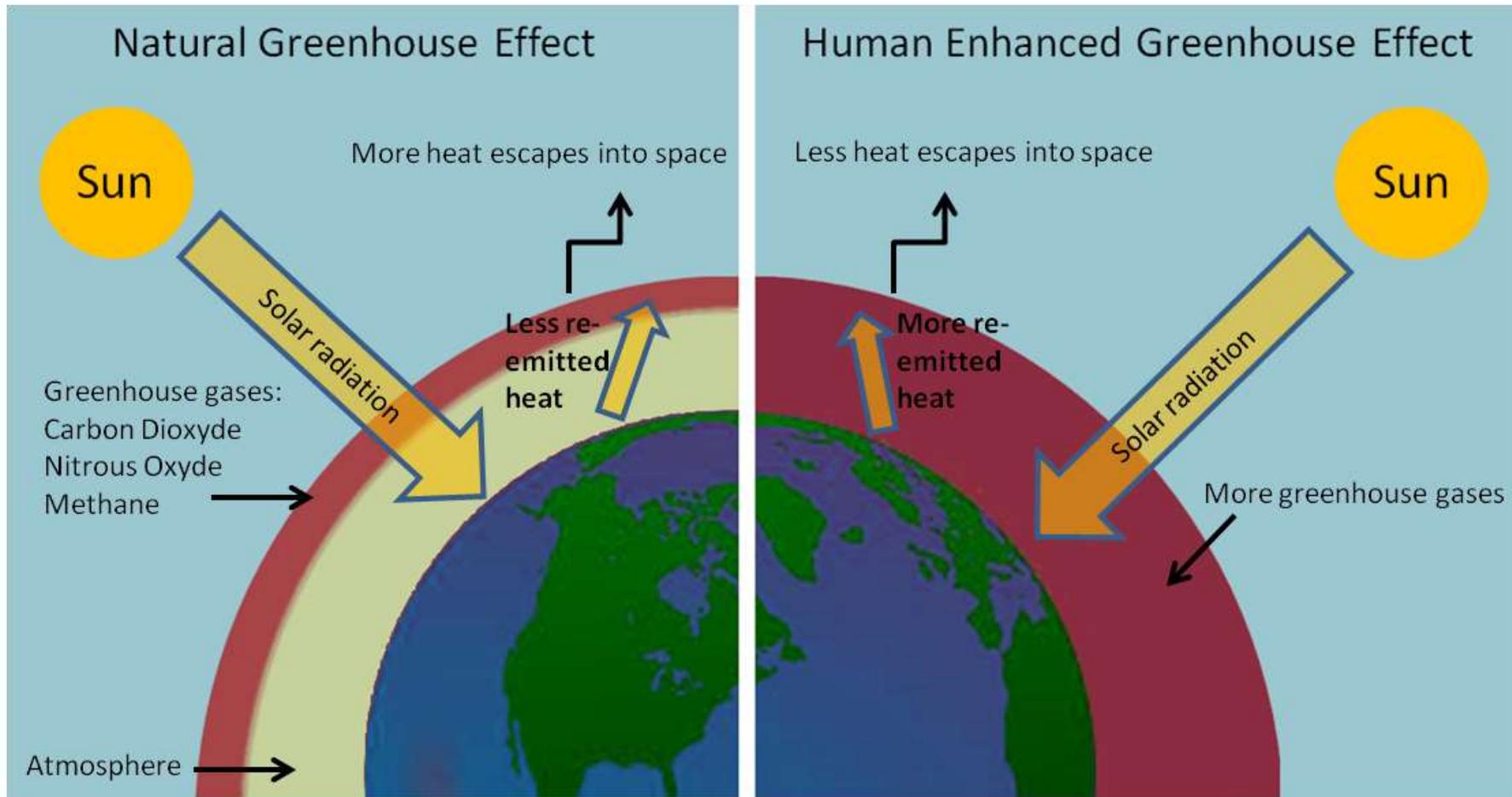
**Would an oak tree  
grow in a rainforest?**

# Climate Change



**What does this mean?**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/34943507>



Environments change. Sometimes they change naturally and sometimes humans change them. Think of some changes to an environment that happen naturally.

(seasons, tides, volcano erupting, night and day, extreme weather).

Most natural changes happen regularly and do not pose a danger to the living things. Living things have special adaptations that allow them to survive the changes.

What do some living things do to cope with winter?

*What about if there is less food?*

# 1. Deforestation



**Forests are amazing and support so many living things.**



**Palm oil plantation  
in an area that was  
once forest.**

Click <https://orangutan.org/orangutan-facts/why-is-the-orangutan-in-danger/> to see how much the forest cover in Borneo has changed.

# What does it mean?

**Deforestation contributed to India's deadly mudslide, experts say. "Deforestation leads to land erosion, which leads to landslide."  
— Medha Patkar, environmental activist**

# 2. Urbanisation

Urbanisation means that there are more and more people living in built-up urban areas, rather than in rural areas. This means that more houses and roads are being built on land that was once untouched.



# What has happened?



When we build another road, or housing estate, pave our back garden or make a driveway, we are taking away food sources from a hedgehog's environment, because worms, slugs and snails don't live on roads!



It is thought that their numbers have declined from about 30 million in the 1950s to about 1.5million now.



Hedgehogs are nocturnal and can travel between 1 and 2 miles at night foraging for food. When we put fences between each garden, we cut off their chance to move around and look for food or find a mate.

# 3. Global Warming



The world is getting warmer because we are burning more fossil fuels. The carbon dioxide this produces is a greenhouse gas – this means that when it is in our atmosphere, it acts like a greenhouse to warm up the world.



# What is the impact?



Glaciers and sea ice are shrinking, which is causing sea levels to rise. If this continues there could be flooding in areas near the coast. Polar bears hunt from the sea ice, less sea ice means a smaller area for hunting.

Some scientists think that global warming will also cause more extreme weather such as hurricanes, drought and flooding in different areas.



# 4. Intensive farming

Farming is getting more and more intense as the demand for food by a growing population increases.



# What is the impact?

Hedges are being removed to make fields larger. Wildflowers were much more abundant before the changes to the environment.

Click here -

[bumble bee conservation](#)

to find out how this change has harmed bees.



*You are a science correspondent and have to write a report investigating habitat destruction in another part of the world. Focus on the impact of the crisis on the food chain.*

*You can choose one of the examples below or you can investigate another one of your own choice.*

**Oil pollution** – Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010

**Deforestation** – Amazon rainforest.

Summarise the main consequences on the rest of the world's food chains, oxygen supply and drug manufacturing, as well as species loss.

**Climate change**- melting polar ice.

Include the issue of the scientific community not always agreeing on the causes of climate change and the problems this brings to finding a global solution.

Peer review your report.

Did you mention the global aspect of the change?

E.g. oil spill – it's far reaching effects on food chains other than the one directly affected.

Did you mention the fact that recovery from such an impact takes a long time?

Did you refer to ways to reverse the harmful impact?

E.g. reducing greenhouse gas emissions.