



Who Am I & Web of Life

These notes are for the Group Leader or Teacher rather than the students or participants.

1. Who Am I

This is a Guessing Game which can be used as a preliminary stage of creating a Red Squirrel Food Web.

What You Need

- Download and print the pictures from “Who Am I Picture Cards”.
- You will need one picture for each person playing. You may need to make some more if there are not enough here. (Alternatively, use two sets and make two groups – it could be a competition to see which group guess who they are correctly the fastest.)
- Some way of attaching the cards so the person wearing it cannot see it (tape, string, safety pins)

What to Do

- Give each person playing a card, but make sure they cannot see it. Everyone else should be able to see it.
- Everyone takes it in turn to try and guess ‘Who Am I’.
- It is probably best to limit the number of questions to 10 or 20; otherwise it may take too long.

2. Creating a Red Squirrel Web of Life

What do red squirrels eat? How are they linked with other animals in the forest? Play this game to find out.... An excellent game to review how everything in nature is linked.

What You Need

- Download and print the pictures from “Who Am I Picture Cards”.
- You will need one picture for each person playing. You may need to make some more if there are not enough here. (Alternatively, use two sets and make two groups – it could be a competition to see which group guess who they are correctly the fastest.)
- Some way of attaching the cards so the person wearing it cannot see it (tape, string, safety pins).
- A very long ball of string or rope (one that will not burn hands if pulled on)

What to Do

- Use ‘Who Am I?’ to give everyone a different part of the Web.
- When everyone has their part of the web, sit them down in a circle.
- Start at the Sun who holds one end of the string asks ‘Who needs me?’
- One of the trees/plant should respond and explain why. The ball of string is thrown to them, making a link to the sun. The tree/plant then asks ‘Who needs me?’



- It can now get quite complex as a number of people can respond – it could be a primary consumer, or perhaps one of the gases in the air, the corresponding seed to that plant, or even the soil. Again make the appropriate links with the ball of string.
- Keep playing until everyone has been included and ideally no more (sensible) connections can be made.

You should end up with a complete web with all the students linked by string – some more than once.

But What If....

Now you as leader can play the Baddie.

- You could be the squirrelpox virus which infects the Grey Squirrel, who feels a little bit ill but soon gets better. Unfortunately, the Grey Squirrel passes the disease onto the Red Squirrel who falls ill and dies. What would happen (if anything) to the links in the Web if the Red Squirrel dies?
- You could play a forester and chop down some of the trees..... but you might replant them too!
- What about being a developer who builds a great big road through the forest.....

You could then be a Goodie if you want to..... You could be a Red Squirrel Conservation Person:-

You can ask the group what can be done to help the red squirrel and then look at how the changes you make may affect the wider environment. Who would need to do the actions to help the red squirrel? Are all the impacts on the wider environment positive?