Hop Aboard the Food Chain Train!

All living things need food, and a food chain describes how living things get their food.

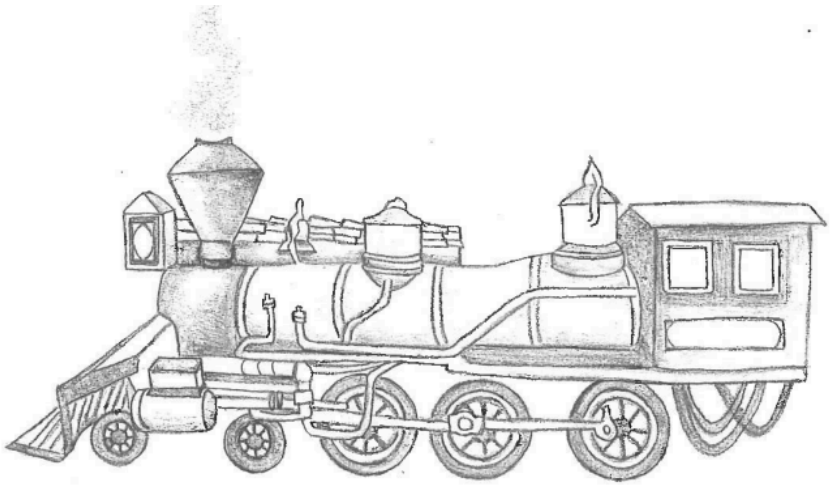
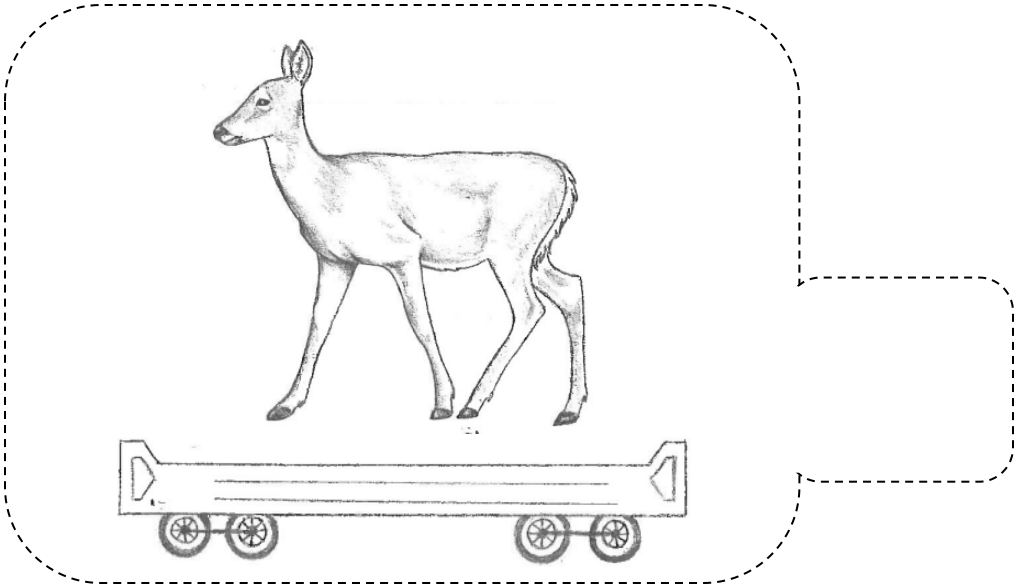
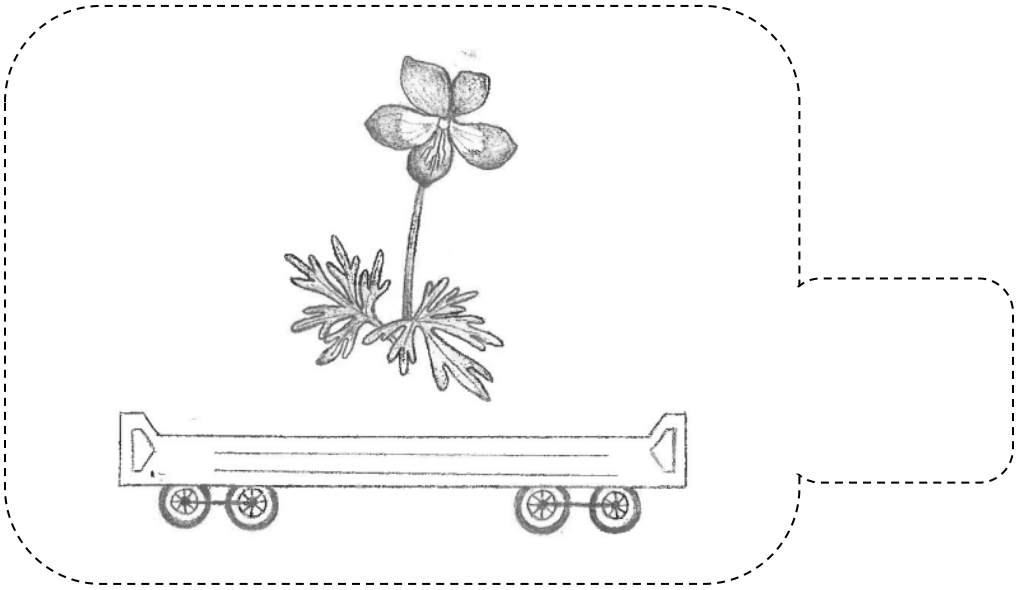
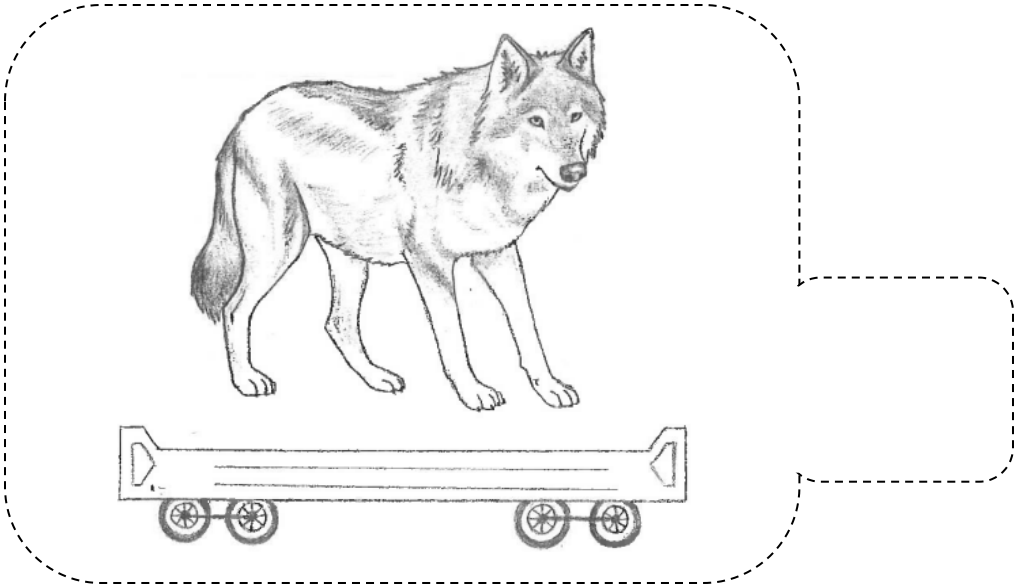
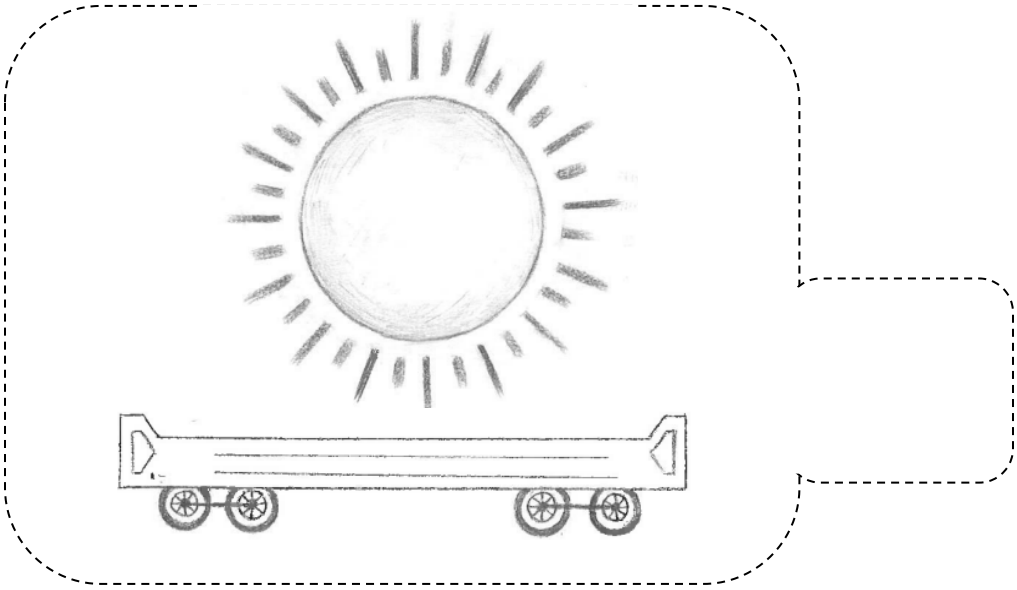
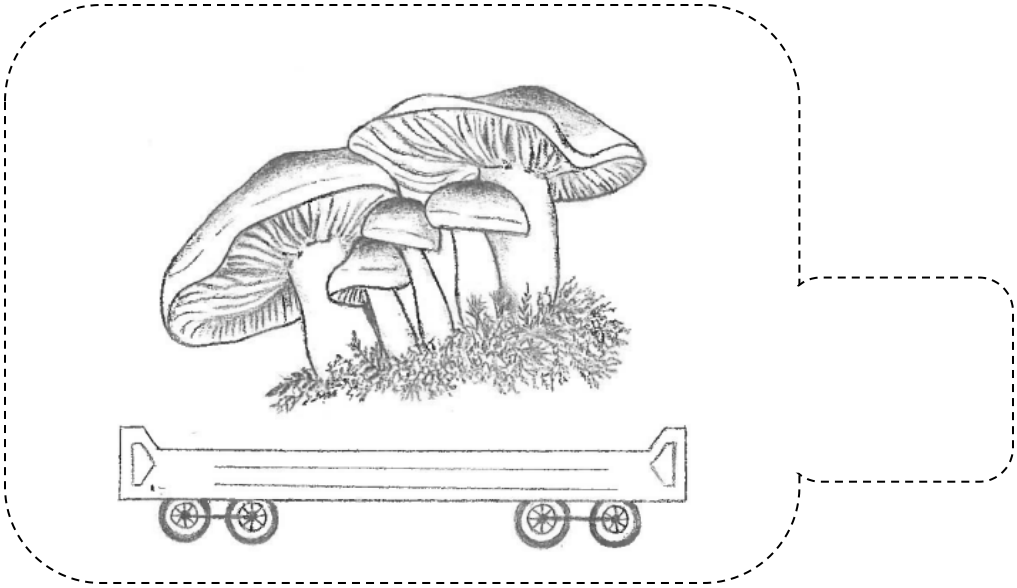
The sun is the foundation of the food chain on land.

A **producer** is first in a food chain. Producers don't eat other living things. Instead, they make their own food, using sunlight or chemicals. Plants are a type of producer.

Next come the **consumers**. Consumers are animals that eat living things, such as plants or other animals.

A **primary consumer** is an animal that eats plants. A primary consumer can be an herbivore or an omnivore, depending on the specific food chain.

A **secondary consumer** is an animal that eats other animals. A secondary consumer can be an omnivore or a carnivore.

A **decomposer** is the last stop in the food chain. Decomposers break down things that are already dead and return the nutrients back to the soil. Many types of bacteria, fungus, and insects are decomposers.

Cut out your shapes along the dotted lines and arrange the train cars in order of a food chain. Then glue the tabs onto the back of the next shape to make a train! Write on each one whether it is a producer, primary consumer, secondary consumer or a decomposer.