

# FOOD WEB CHALLENGE:



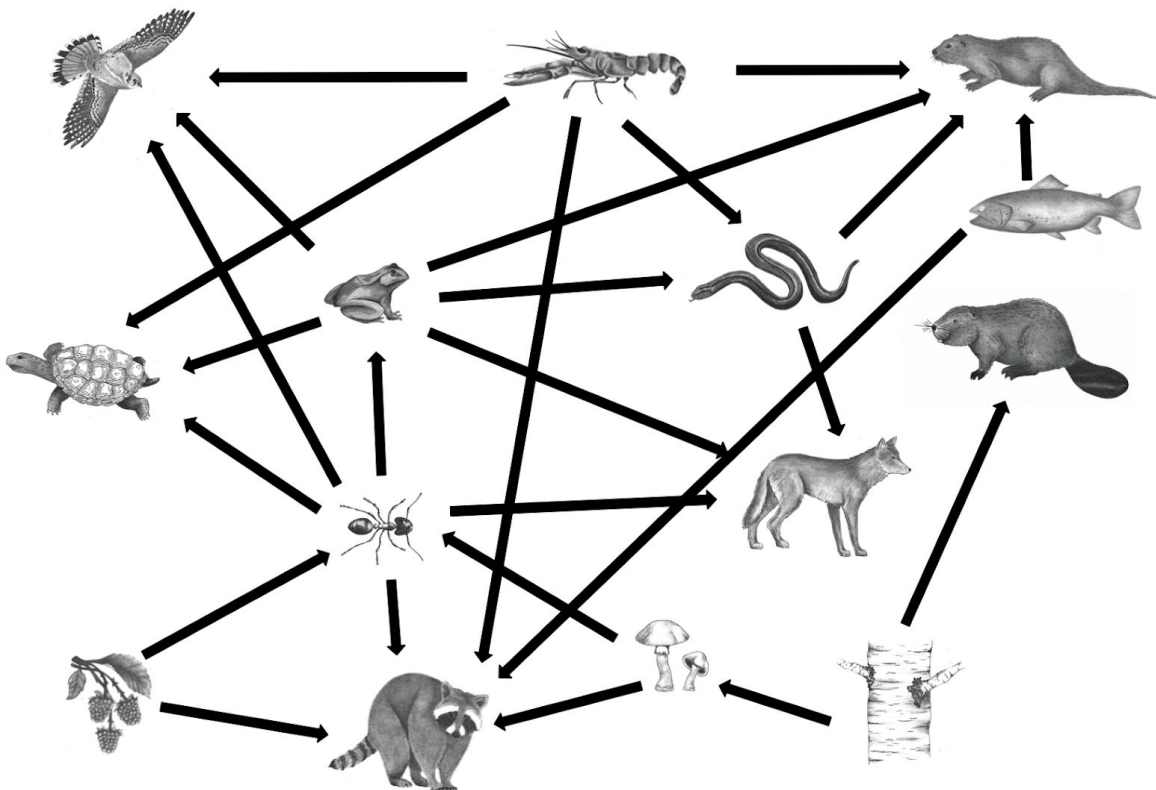
**Food webs are simplified maps of the relationships between Consumers and Producers in an Ecosystem.** Look at the food web below of common wildlife you'd find in the Adirondacks. Arrows point from the food source to the consumer. On the next page, **DESCRIBE** what you think would happen in each of these scenarios:

## What would happen to the Food Web if:

- The coyote is absent.
- The frog is absent.
- The crawfish is absent.
- The birch tree is absent

## As you write your predictions think about:

- The effect the change will have on the populations of each plant and animal.
- Which animals are directly and indirectly affected by each change.
- What effect does the absence of an **Apex Predator** or **Primary Producer** have on the entire food web.
- Why is it important for ecosystems to be diverse?



**RECORD your Predictions and Evidence here:**

**Glossary:**

**Primary Producer:** An organism that uses energy from the environment to make food. (Plants are producers)

**Consumer:** An organism that eats other organisms, either producers or consumers, for energy (Animals are consumers)

**Apex Predator:** A predator at the top of a food chain or web, they are not the natural prey to any other organism.