Blanket Bogs as an example of a UK habitat

Food Web and Species Adaptations
Today’s Focus

- What are food chains and food webs?
- What are producers, consumers, detritivores decomposers?
- How 2 species are suited to life in blanket bog habitats?
**Food Chain?**

Simple feeding relationship linking one organism to the next in one pathway

**Food Web?**

Feeding relationship of the whole community in an ecosystem including all the food chains
Activity – Research some other species that use blanket bog, moorland habitat, where would they fit in this food web?
Draw your own version out on paper or create another one on the computer.
Questions

How would the rest of the species be affected if:
- The buzzard population increased?
- The buzzard population decreased?

How would the Skylark, Mountain Hare and Curlew be affected if the Water Vole numbers decreased?
**Activity**: Print this slide out or add lines electronically which show how the different species and factors are connected. You can add text to the lines if you want or just add lines as you think about or research a connection. Can you see the species interdependence connecting the species and the factors?

Note: remember, not all these species live in blanket bogs but might visit them from nearby habitats to hunt/forage for food.
Flashback to webcast 1!

Where does the energy come from?
**Producers** – organisms in the food web (or chain) which are capable of manufacturing their own food e.g. plants

**Consumers** – organisms that get all their energy by consuming other organisms

**Detritivores** – animal organisms that consume dead organic matter e.g. slugs, woodlice

** Decomposers** – bacteria and fungi involved in the breakdown of dead organic matter
Can you spot?

Producers
Consumers
Detritivores
Decomposers

Get Involved
Activity
Read about categorising these organism further on GCSE Bitesize -
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpw3jty/revision/5
Can you create a colour code or label all the species in this foodweb, you might need to
do some research to decide which category some of them fall into.
The Blanket Bog Life is the Hard Life

- Low Nutrients
- Upland - exposed
- Acidic Conditions
- Waterlogged soils
- High temperature range
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species Adaptations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Round-leaved Sundew—</td>
<td><em>Drosera rotundifolia</em></td>
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<td>Sphagnum Moss – <em>Sphagnum</em></td>
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**Activity** – are there any other carnivorous plants that live in blanket bog habitats? Do they work in the same way as sundew?
Activity – What minerals do mosses like sphagnum need to absorb from their surroundings? Make a list.
Activity – Research how another species associated with blanket bogs is adapted to suit it’s habitat. Draw and label a diagram or make some notes – you could even add a slide to this presentation about it.

What about the short-eared owl or the four-spot orb-weaver spider?