

1.6

Oak Woodland Keystone Species Exploration

Healthy Ecosystems Feed Healthy Communities

Answer Key: Oak Woodland

Ecosystem Keystone Species

Notice that certain species have more arrows pointing toward them, and more arrows pointing away from them. In this food web, humans are an apex predator and also a keystone species, as species populations rely on human consumption. The Black Oak is a keystone species because it provides food/energy to many species, as does Brome Grass. Once students have created their web, it may be helpful to cover up the keystone species one at a time in order to discuss the impact they have on the food web.

