

Teacher Page for Steller Web Spinning Activity

Analysis Questions:

1. List the components that have the most connections to them?

Krill prey

Herring prey

Pollock prey and predator

Whales predator

2. What kind of connections are they – predator or prey?

See above

3. What does it mean when a component has many predator connections?
Is it high or low on the food chain? Explain your reasoning.

Many predator connections make the component high on the food chain.

4. Is there any one component that would cause the web to be significantly weakened if it were removed? What is that component?

Krill and Herring are both components that are integral to the web.

5. How could you change your model to show what has happened to the ecosystem you have been studying?

Make two webs using different amounts of marshmallows to show relative abundance in the system. Change the numbers of various component groups or remove them altogether to see what happens to the web.