



Ecosystems: Give and Take

In an ecosystem, the various organisms that exist, both contribute (give) and benefit (take) when in this environment. On the chart below is a list of organism types that you would find in a freshwater ecosystem. You have already become familiar with them when you did the illustration on the **Lake Ecosystem near the Shore** worksheet. These organisms can give or take:

- **shelter**
- **food**
- **nutrients** (food for plants)
- **Oxygen** (important for animals)
- **Carbon Dioxide** (important for plants)

Food can mean the animal eats others or gets eaten by others!

Fill in the chart below. Note down what you think each organism gives or takes within the system it lives in. Use what is listed above as a guide

Organism	Contributes (gives)	Benefits (takes)
Weeds		
Micro organisms		
Aquatic insects		
Tiny baby fish		
Small fish		
Large fish		