Shad in the Schools - Food Web Activity

**[American Shad](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/media/shadinschools/shad.jpg)**

**Food Web Activity**

**Purpose:**Students will understand complexity and connectivity within a near shore marine ecosystem by learning the story of the American shad, creating a food web, and identifying specific reasons for their decline as well as restoration practices that can help bring them back into the ecosystem.

* Give each student a copy of the food web activity student sheet ([Attachment 1](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/pdfs/sis/Attachment1_Foodweb_Activity.pdf)), the "American Shad" profile ([Attachment 2](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/pdfs/sis/Attachment2_American_shad_profile.pdf)) and the "Profile of a Biologist" ([Attachment 3](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/pdfs/sis/Attachment_3_ProfileofaBiologist_Mike_Wicker_Final_001.pdf)).
* Have students read the articles and answer the questions on the food web activity student sheet.
* After students read the articles and answer the questions, break the students into small groups to do the food web card game.
* Hand out a set of "[Food Web Cards](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/pdfs/sis/food_web_cards.pdf)" to each group. Have student groups build their food web charts and glue them in place on poster board, or on a large piece of paper

[Attachment 1 - Food Web Activity Student Sheet](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/pdfs/sis/Attachment1_Foodweb_Activity.pdf)

[Attachment 2 - American Shad](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/pdfs/sis/Attachment2_American_shad_profile.pdf)

[Attachment 3 - Profile of a Biologist](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/pdfs/sis/Attachment_3_ProfileofaBiologist_Mike_Wicker_Final_001.pdf)

[Food Web Cards](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/pdfs/sis/food_web_cards.pdf)