

# Deadly Links

**Objectives** Students will be able to:  
1) give examples of ways in which pesticides enter food chains; and 2) describe possible consequences of pesticides entering food chains.

**Method** Students become "hawks", "shrews", and "grasshoppers" in a highly-involving physical activity.

## Evaluation

Give three examples of ways in which pesticides could enter a food chain.

Discuss two possible consequences of pesticides entering the food chain for each of the examples you gave above.

An ecologist studied the presence of a toxic chemical in a lake. He found the water had one molecule of the chemical for every one billion molecules of water. This is called one part per billion (1ppb). The algae had one part per million (1ppm) of the toxic chemical. Small animals, called zooplankton, had 10 ppm. Small fish had 100 ppm. Large fish had 1000 ppm. How do you explain this increase in this toxic chemical to 1,000 ppm for the large fish? Use a drawing to help support your answer.

The ecologist found the chemical was a pesticide which has been sprayed on cropland 160 kilometres away from the lake. How did so much of it get into the lake?

