



Other Animals

Konza researchers + Kaw (Kaáⁿze) language
Joint perspectives on People & Land discussion part 5, 230928



Introduce Lydia, Charlee, Rissa

Participants please write your name, email, location, and primary interests in the Chat

Questions: will have open discussion at the end, please post questions in the Chat as we go

Land and Name Acknowledgement

The grasslands on which Konza Prairie LTER research is focused have been a home to people for thousands of years, including many named and unnamed peoples who lived and hunted here prior to European settlement. Indigenous people of the Kaw (Kanza) Nation inhabited and stewarded this area until their forced removal between 1846 and 1872, when they were relocated to a small reservation in what is now Oklahoma. The depopulated Kaw land was subsequently used to finance the Land-Grant University system under the Morrill Act of 1862, including Kansas State University, which administers the Konza Prairie LTER Program. Our LTER research program operates under a name, “Konza”, that is derived from the name of the Kaw, or “Kaá’ze”, People.

The Konza Prairie LTER acknowledges the immemorial connection of Indigenous peoples with these lands, and we pledge to respect and honor the past and current legacy, cultural history, and knowledge of the Kaw Nation. Through our professional capacity as scientists and educators, we will work to increase our knowledge of the human legacy of these lands, and in turn, will teach this history to others. The beauty of this land inspires our work to understand the tallgrass prairie and support conservation of this ecosystem. However, this inspiration also serves as a reminder of the Indigenous human history that has shaped the modern landscape, and the influence that our current actions will have on the prairie of the future.

<http://lter.konza.ksu.edu/konza-prairie-lter-land-and-name-acknowledgement>



Perspectives & Methodologies

- Understand scientific method and Indigenous perspective on prairie knowledge
- Consider humans' relationship with the Land in North America:
 - This was not "*Terra nullius*" (nobody's land) when Europeans arrived
- Establish a forward-thinking mindset, with an honest vision of the past and present



Sept 28: More Animals

- Dogs: Indigenous dog lineages are non-European, dogs' role in society
- Deer (*ta*), eagle (*xuyá*): Clan structure and taboos
- Insects, lizards: Naming of things part two (new names)?

Agenda:

13:30-13:35 Introduction / Review

13:35-13:40 Food webs... (Lydia)

13:40-13:50 Dogs (Lydia, Charlee)

13:50-14:05 Deer, eagle, clans (Charlee)

14:05-14:15 Insects, lizards... (Lydia & Charlee)

14:15-14:30+ Questions

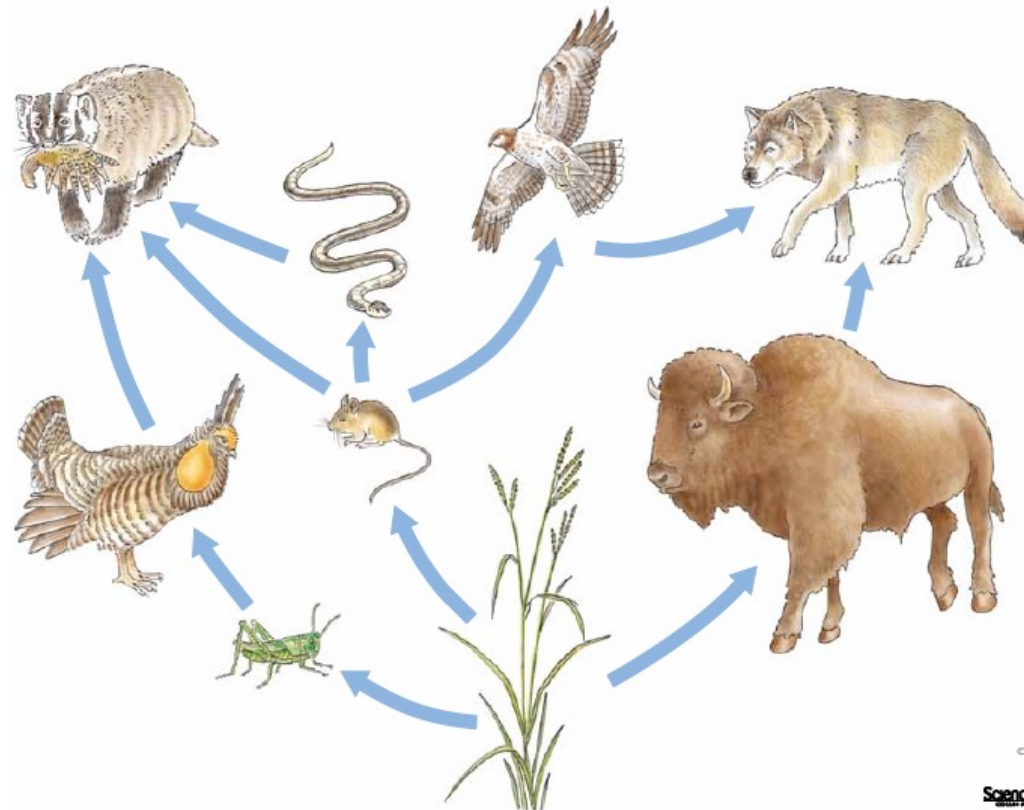


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Food Webs... the Prairie Food Web?

Tall Grass Prairie Food Web



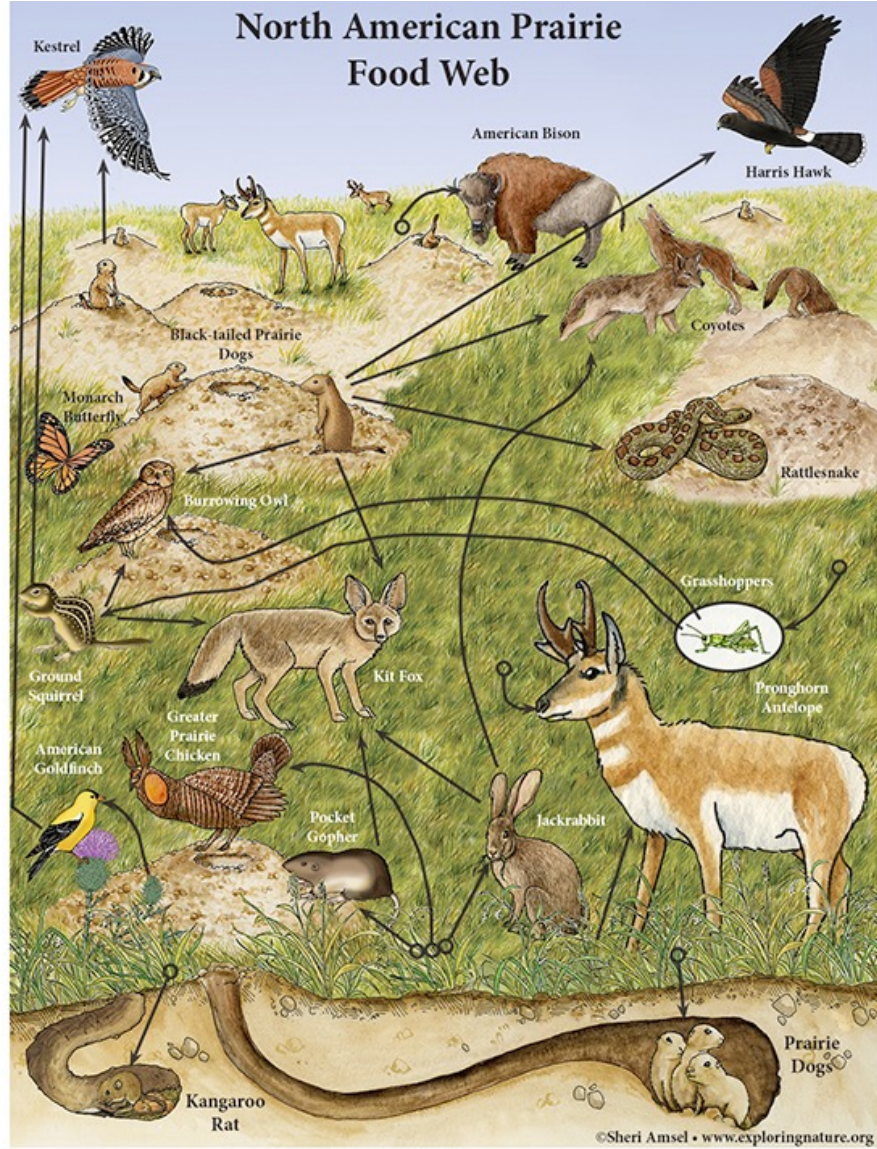
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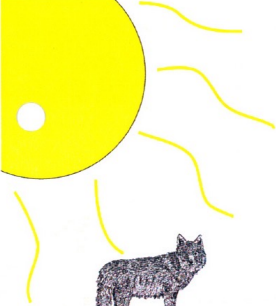
Players in an Ecosystem lesson









PRAIRIE FOOD CHAINS







hawk




eagle




coyote




mountain lion




bison




deer




rattlesnake



mouse




sparrow




prairie dog




rabbit




grasshopper




wildflowers




grass




yucca moth




yucca



fungus



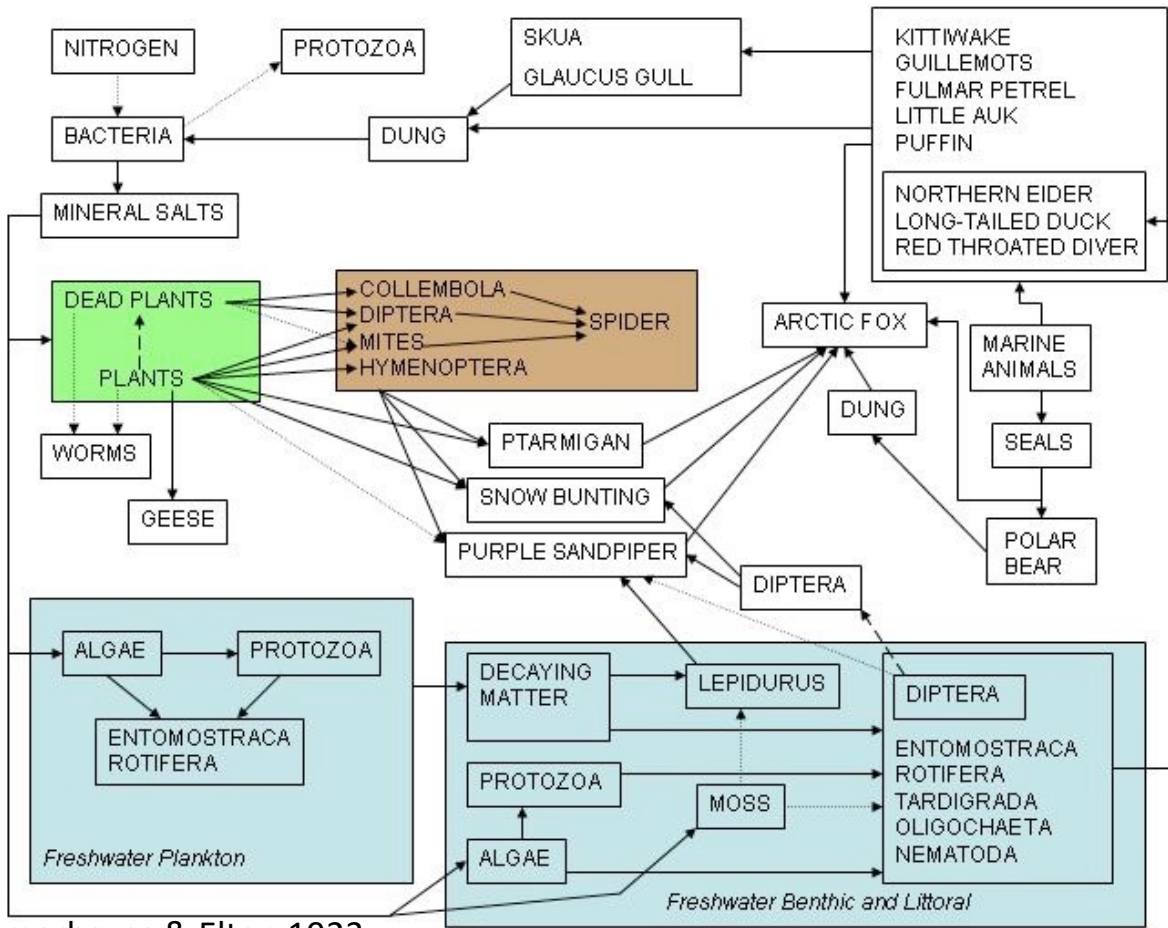
roundworms



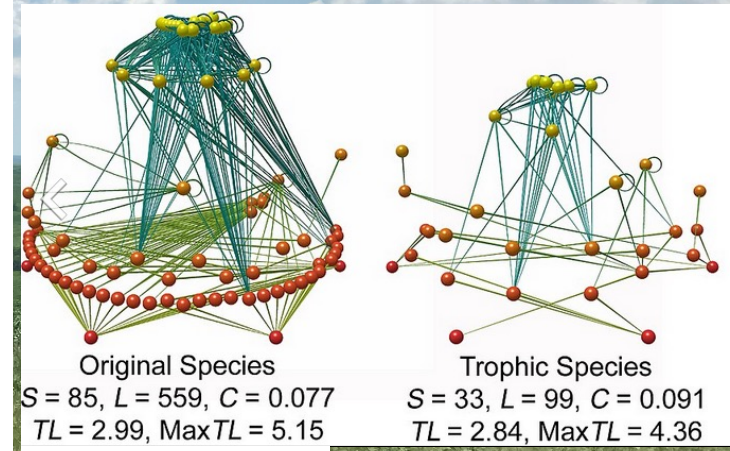
seeds

Draw a line connecting each animal to its food.
Answer the questions on the back of this page.






Summerhayes & Elton 1923



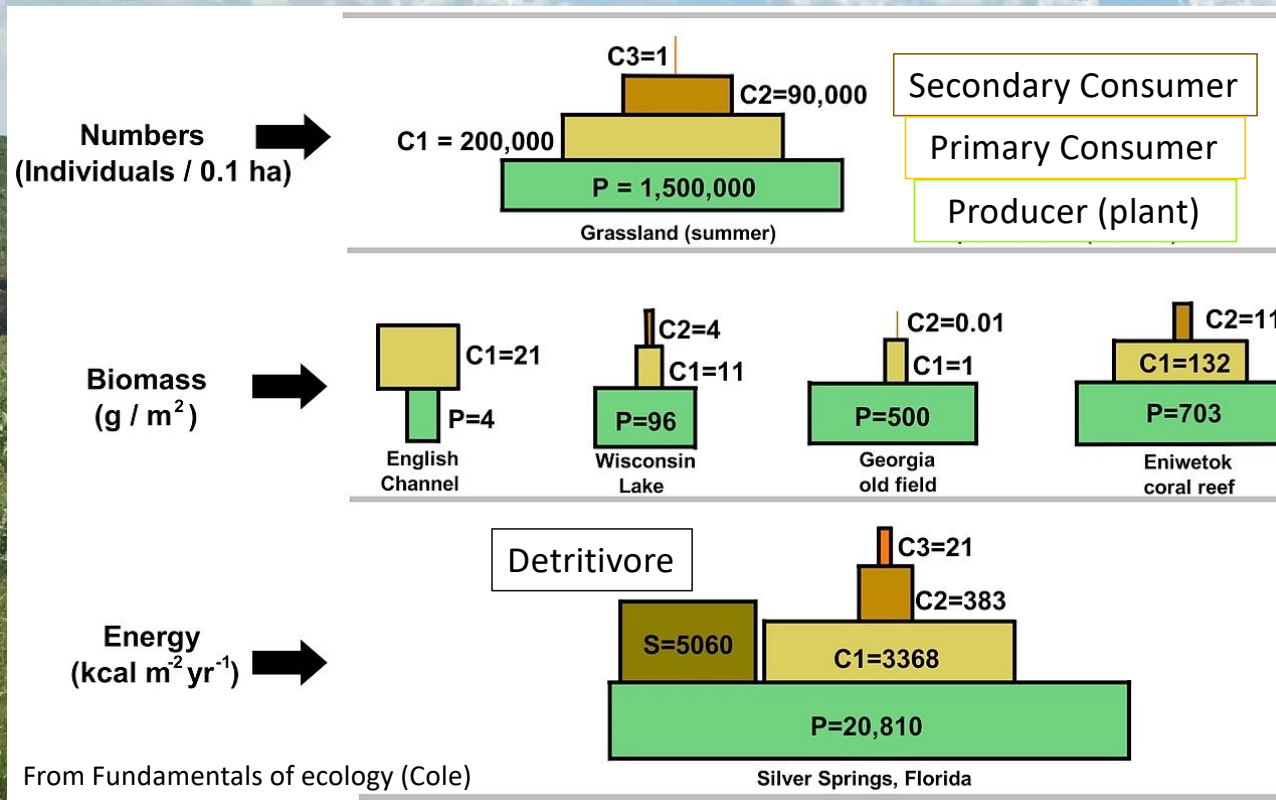
Dunne et al. 2008



Why do ecologists care about food webs?
What is missing from all of the examples?

Why do ecologists care about food webs? – defines relationships, niches, energy flow

What is missing from all of the examples? – HUMANS




Plants make CO₂ into food for heterotrophs...

Consumers consume...

Detritivores decompose...

Energy is transferred and lost along the way.

Where do humans fit?



Why do ecologists care about food webs?
What is missing from all of the examples?

Indigenous DOGS?



<https://daily.jstor.org/the-dogs-of-north-america/>



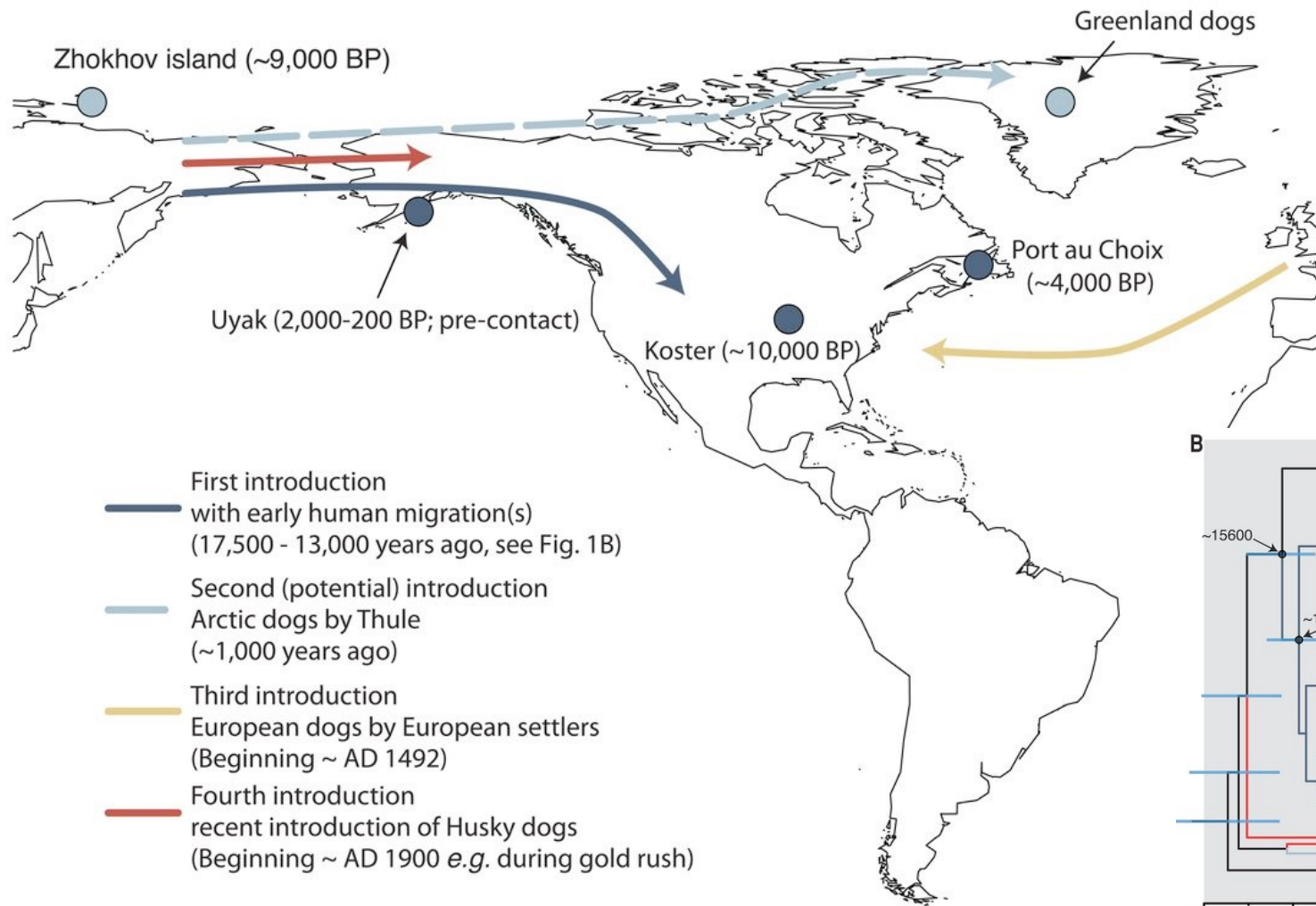
Carolina dog: Only extant wild dog in N. America



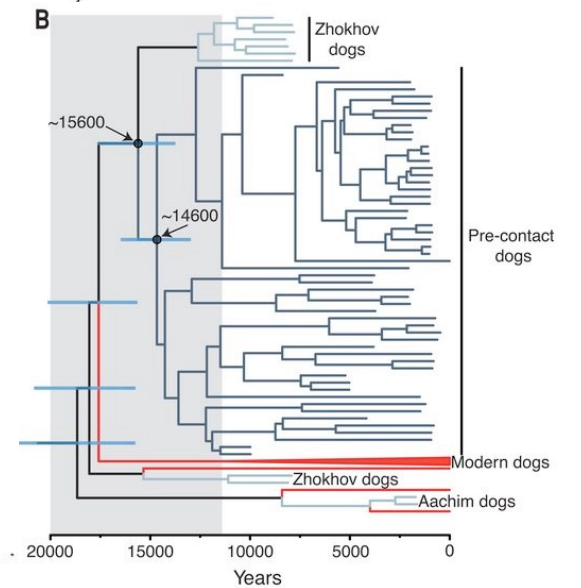
Indigenous DOGS?

- Domesticated dogs have been on the continent since ~9900 years ago (radiocarbon dating, Perri et al. 2018, shown)
- Common ancestor of all pre-contact dogs ~14600 years ago (Leathlobhair et al. 2018), origin most likely in Siberia
- That pre-colonial lineage is gone, modern dogs have a European origin





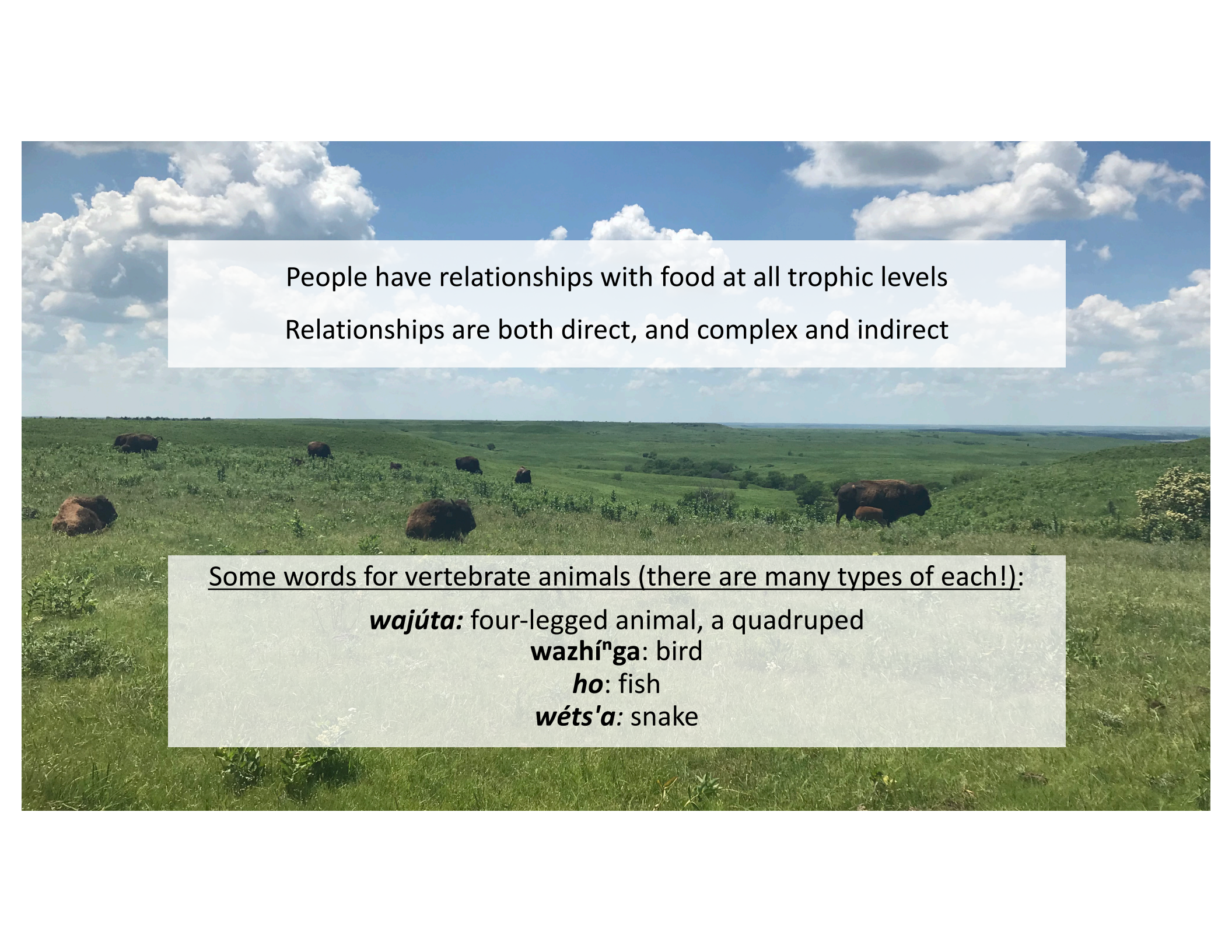
- First introduction with early human migration(s) (17,500 - 13,000 years ago, see Fig. 1B)
- Second (potential) introduction Arctic dogs by Thule (~1,000 years ago)
- Third introduction European dogs by European settlers (Beginning ~ AD 1492)
- Fourth introduction recent introduction of Husky dogs (Beginning ~ AD 1900 e.g. during gold rush)



Leathlobhair et al. 2018

Kaw dogs?
YES...





People have relationships with food at all trophic levels
Relationships are both direct, and complex and indirect

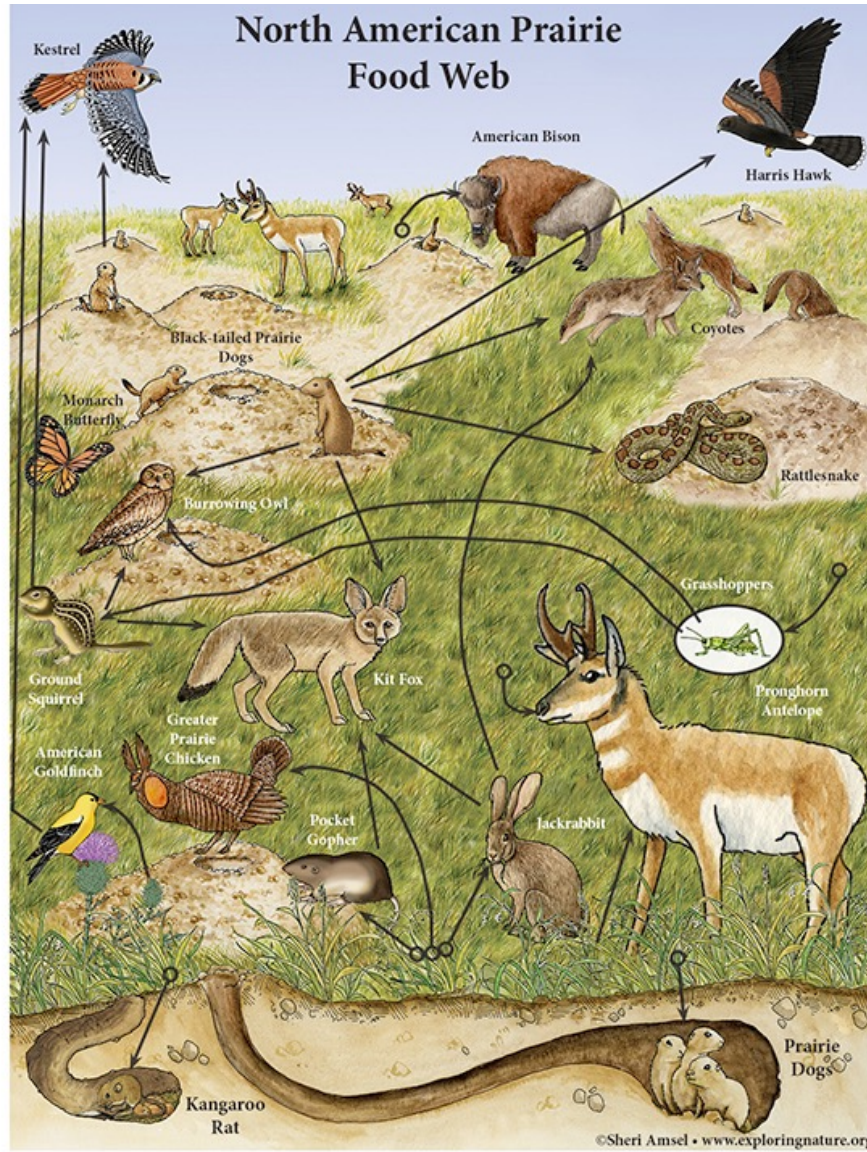
Some words for vertebrate animals (there are many types of each!):

wajúta: four-legged animal, a quadruped

wazhí'ga: bird

ho: fish

wéts'a: snake



Eagle: *xuyá*

Deer: *ta*



Picture: Eva Horne

Eagle?



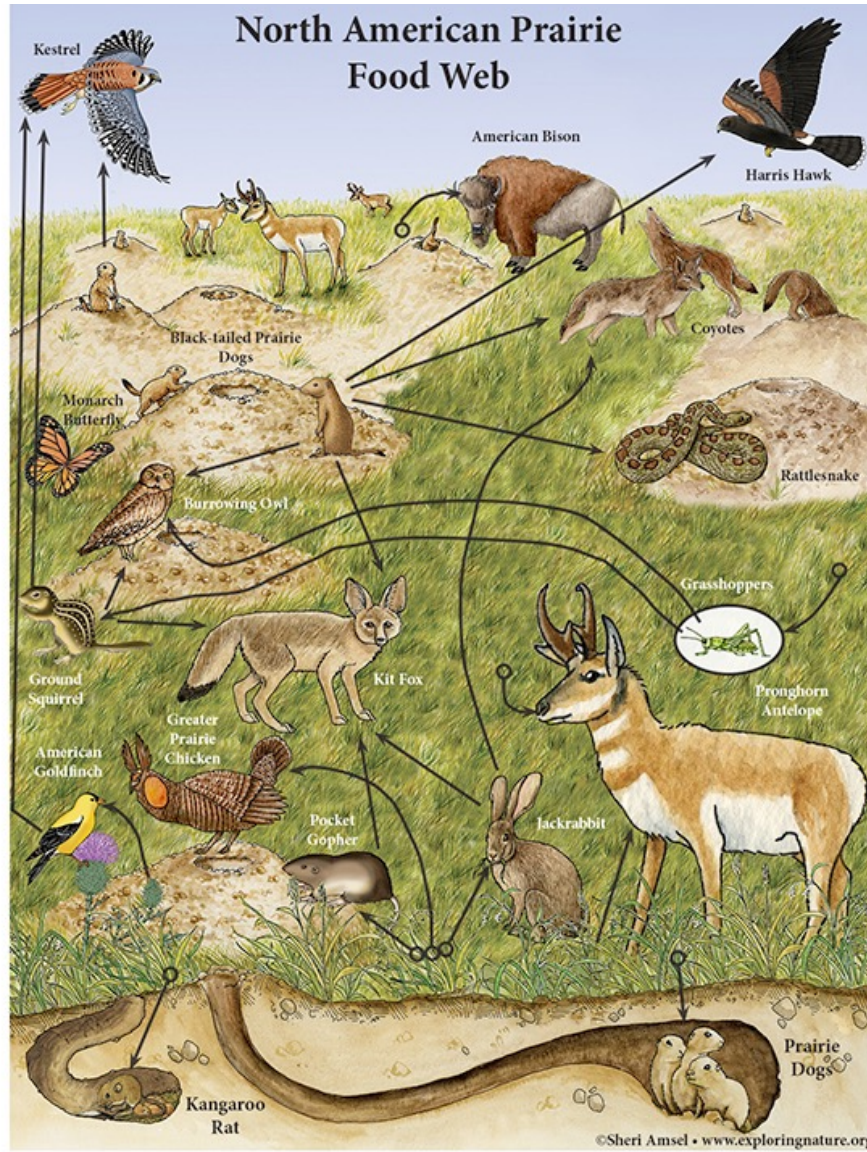
xuyá [xu-yá] n

1) the large white, or golden, eagle

◆ JOD: In this class are four (or five?) other birds:

háⁿga taⁿga or tasíⁿje xàga, xuyá-lezhe, xuyá-zhiⁿga or (?) xuyégo-zhiⁿga (two distinct birds, according to the Osages), and xuyá-pasu. ◆ MR: "Háⁿga taⁿga is a big eagle, one of those black ones, I think. Taxíⁿje xága is a deer tail roach. Xuyá lezè is one of those spotted eagles, xuyá hiⁿga is a small eagle, and the xuyá pasù is one of those bald eagles."

2) a Kanze clan



Picture: Eva Horne

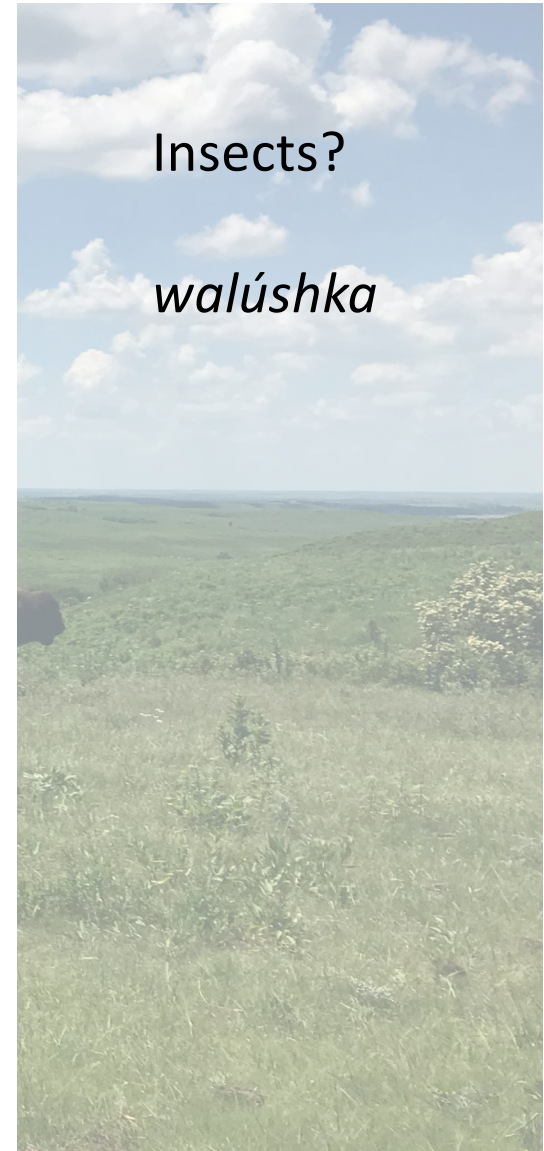
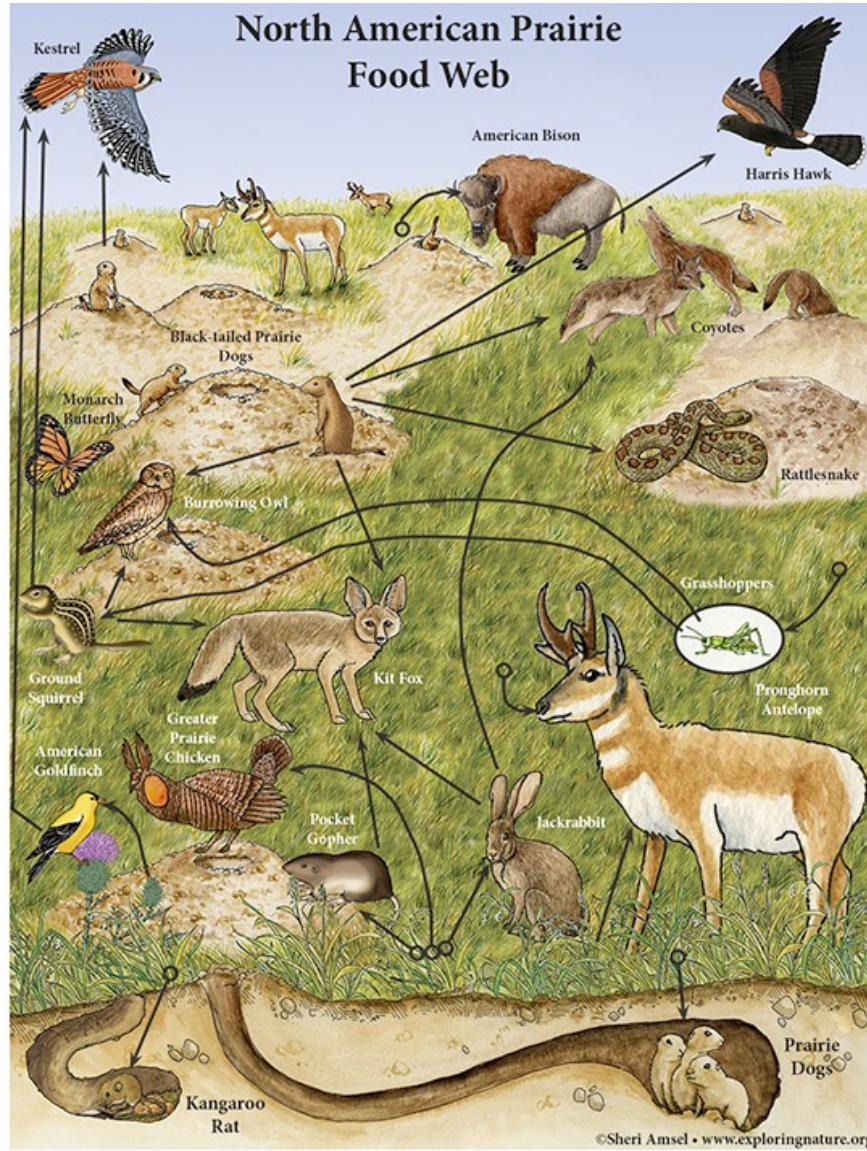
ta [ta] n

- 1) deer
- 2) meat of any sort
- 3) a Kanze clan

- ta sábe [ta sá-be] n black deer
- tá síⁿjeska [tá síⁿ-je-ska] n white tail deer
- Ta Yáchazhi [Ta Yá-cha-zhi] n Eats no Deer, subclan of the Kaw deer clan
- Ta Yachazhi íekiye [Ta Yá-cha-zhi í-e-ki-ye] n camp crier, hereditary in the Deer Clan ◆
Lit. "Eats No Deer" + "he speaks to them"



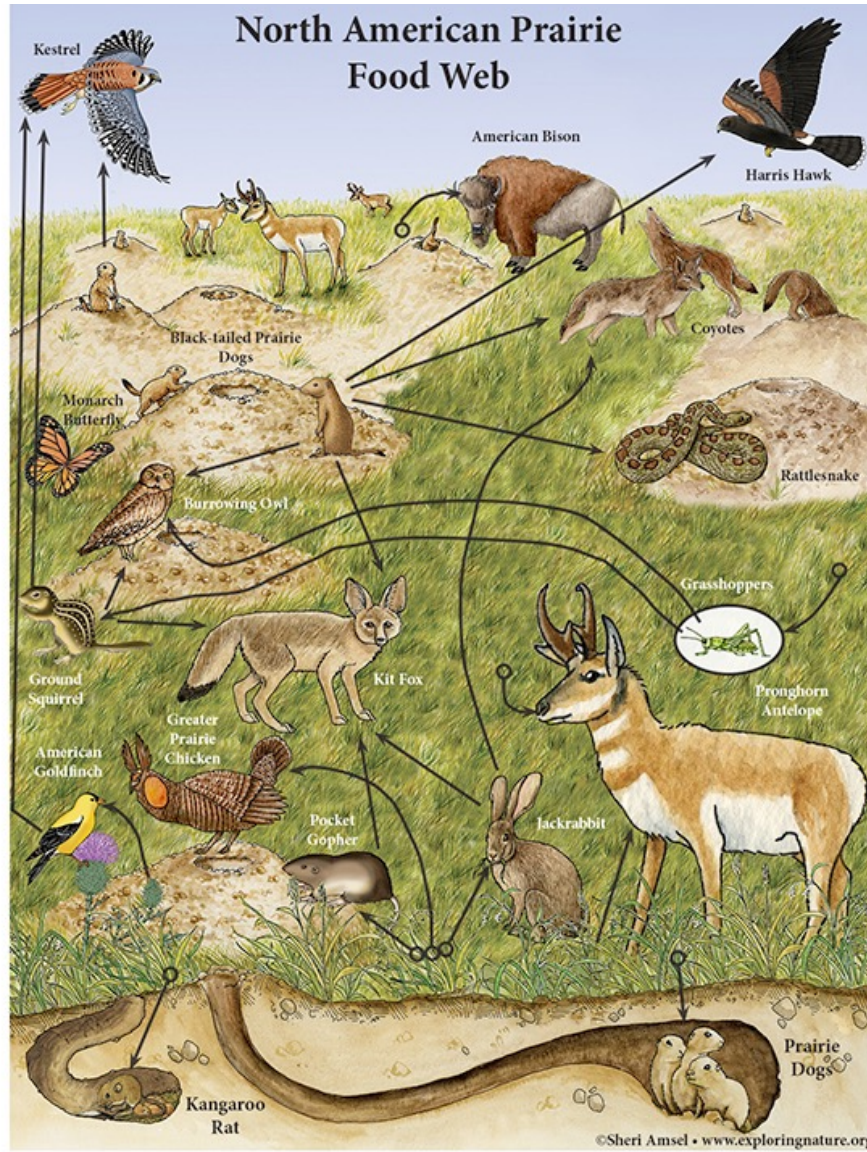
Picture: Eva Horne

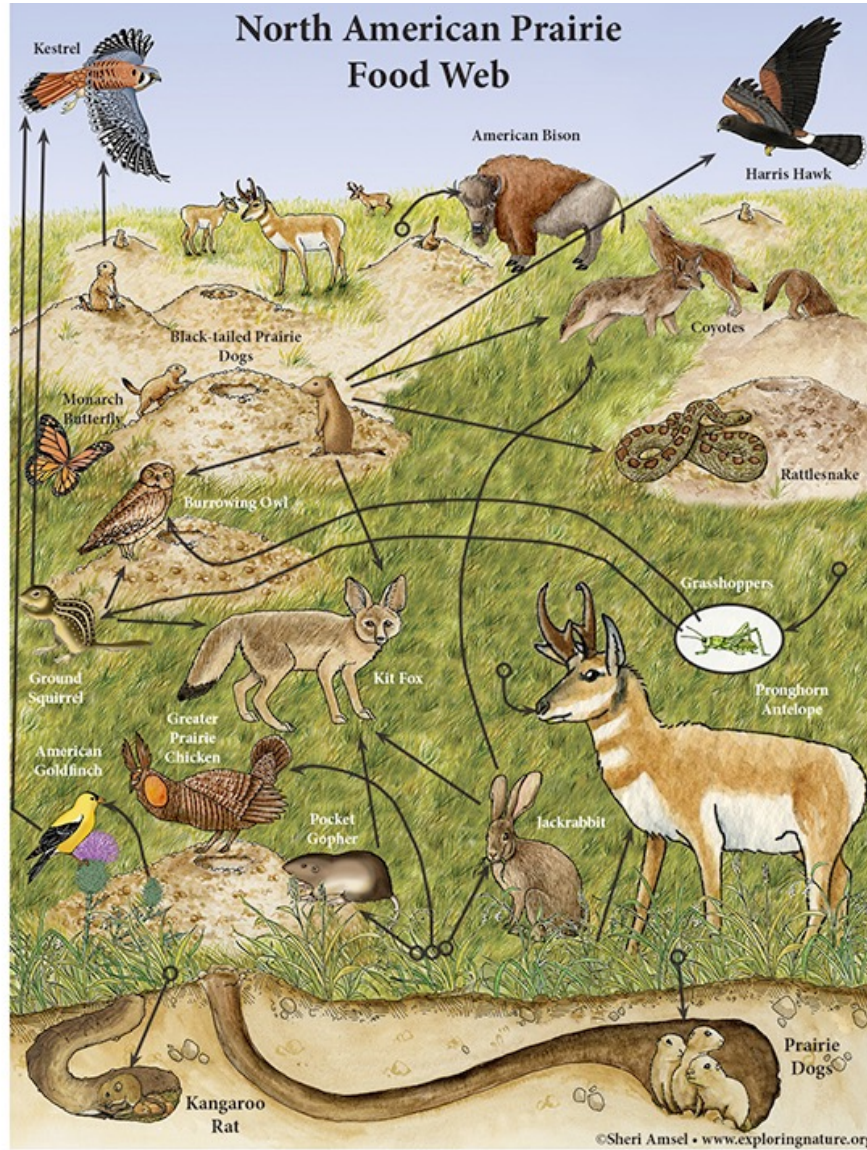


walúshka [wa-lú-shka] n insect, bug, worm

- *walúshka cúshuwe* worm, earthworm
- *walúshka dázhe* sow bug, roly poly
- *walúshka híⁿ shce* caterpillar, or tarantula
- *walúshka kíyaha pà* cockroach (MR)
 - ◆ JOD: Lit. "the large black insect." It is about an inch long and is longer than the *ílo batáⁿya* (tumble bug/dung beetle). It hops like the grasshopper, to which it is "related".
- *walúshka shúbe* worm, earthworm
 - ◆ Lit. "entrail insect". MR refers to these as fishing worms (bait). JOD notes that it is from six to nine inches long.
- *walúshka ts'e wats'éga* type of dung beetle
 - ◆ Lit. "the insect that feigns death" (if touched). It is larger than the *ílo batáⁿya* (tumble bug) and its back is blue.



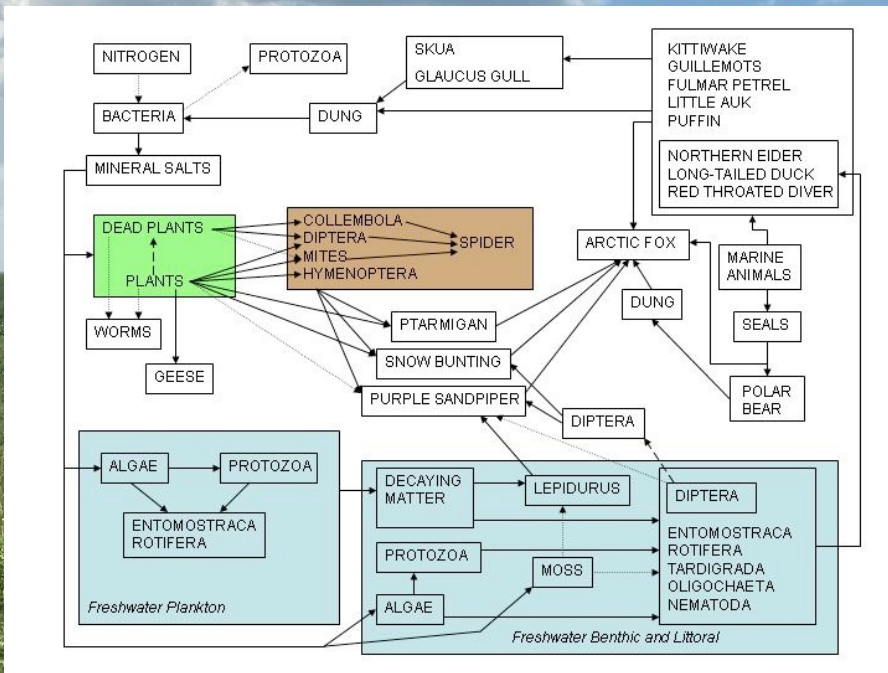




Snake?

This specific
snake?






Kaáⁿze Íe Wayáje

An Annotated Dictionary of Kaw (Kanza)

Kaw-English/English-Kaw

Linda A. Cumberland, Ph.D., Editor
 Robert L. Rankin, Ph.D., Contributing Editor

Contributing Native Speakers



People have relationships with food at all trophic levels
Relationships are both direct, and complex and indirect

QUESTIONS???