Santa Fe Science Café for Young Thinkers

"Eat and Be Eaten: The Science of Food Webs"

Jennifer Dunne
Santa Fe Institute

Wednesday, September 5
6:00-7:30 PM

Georgia O'Keeffe Museum
Education Annex
123 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe

Species in ecosystems are connected to each other through various types of interactions. One of the most fundamental is feeding—when a wolf kills an elk, when an insect eats part of a leaf, when a spider cannibalizes a smaller spider of the same species, when a parasite feeds on a host. Put all of the species and their interactions together for a particular habitat and you get a food web, a network that can be analyzed and modeled. Come join a conversation about insights we can gain about ecosystems using this "web of life" approach, including how species are organized in ancient fossil systems, how humans fit into food webs, and how losing one species from a community can result in a cascade of extinctions.

Admission is Free. Youth (ages 13-19) seating a priority. Light refreshments will be served. Jennifer will also appear at 8:30 AM the same day on the **Santa Fe Radio Café** (KSFR 101.1 FM) with host Mary Charlotte streaming from www.ksfr.org.

Jennifer is a professor at the Santa Fe Institute. She co-founded and co-directs a California-based research institute called the Pacific Ecoinformatics and Computational Lab (PEaCE Lab). She studies the structure, dynamics, function, and stability of complex ecological networks, which provide the basic architecture for the flow of energy and resources through ecosystems.

Sponsors: Santa Fe Alliance for Science; Santa Fe Public Schools; Georgia O'Keeffe Museum; Santa Fe Institute. Call 603-7468 for more information.