Food Chain activity

1. Prepare the followings: 50 green counters (represent algae), 20 red counters (represent toxic chemicals), name tags, paper cups, small bounce balls.
2. Divide the class into 3 groups: small aquatic insects/fish, mallard ducks, humans
3. Assign half of the class as small aquatic insects/fish, ~ 40% of the class as mallard ducks, and ~ 10% as humans. Then each student write what they are representing on a name tag and wear it. Each of the "small aquatic insects/fish" student get a paper cup.
4. Ask students which species is eaten by which? Write down the order on the board (algae, aquatic insects/fish, mallard ducks, humans). Inform students this is called "Food Chain"- a sequence that shows how energy and nutrients flow from one organism to another.
5. Scatter all the counters on the floor/field ("lake").

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6. Small aquatic insects/fish enter the “lake” for 30 seconds, pick up as many counters as they can and keep them in the paper cup. They stop once 30 seconds is up. (** no running)
7. Mallard ducks enter the “lake” for 30 seconds and small aquatic insects/fish hand over the cup when they are approached by mallard ducks. (** no running, but they can move fast).
8. Ask Mallard Ducks to count the number of red counters they have in their cup.
9. Humans use small bounce balls to catch mallard ducks from outside the “lake”. Mallard ducks to hand over the cup when they are caught. (** Inform students that this is not a dodgeball activity)
10. Ask Humans to count the number of red counters they have in their cup.