



Year 6
Topic: Living things and their habitats
Strand: Biology

What I should already know.

- Animals can be grouped into vertebrates (and then further into fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds and mammals) and invertebrates.
- Animals can be grouped into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.
- The differences between the teeth of carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.
- The names of some common wild and garden plants and deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Examples of habitats (including microhabitats) and the animals and plants that can be found there.
- Living things depend on each other to survive.
- How food chains and food webs work.
- How land use has changed over time and the effects this has on the environment (e.g. urban environment).

What will I know by the end of the unit?

The billions of different kinds of living things (organisms) on earth have been divided up, by scientists, into groups according to their similarities and differences. This is known as classifying.

- Classifying living things into groups allows scientists to learn more about what makes each species unique.
- There are many different classes of animal. Those with backbones are known as the 'class' vertebrates. These are then grouped into mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians.
- Invertebrates, animals without backbones, are arachnids, insects, snails and slugs and worms.
- Humans fall into the mammal class as they have hair on their bodies and drink milk when they are babies. Whales, dolphins, bats, cats, dogs and hedgehogs are also mammals.
- A habitat is the non-living environment surrounding a living thing. It provides space, shelter, food and water.
- An ecosystem is made up of the living organism and the non-living habitat. An ecosystem can be any size from a tree to the whole world.
- Food chains are a map of the flow of energy from a plant (primary producer) through consumers, (primary consumers) and hunters, classifying Plants and Animals (secondary consumers).

Vocabulary

Biodiversity	The variety of plant and animal life in the world or in a particular habitat.
biomes	A natural area of vegetation and animals.
Carnivore	A animal that eats meat.
Classification key criteria	A system which divides things into groups or types. A factor on which something is judged.
deciduous	Trees that lose leaves in the autumn every year.
Environment	All the circumstances, people, things and events around them that influence their life.
evergreen	A tree or bush which has green leaves all year round.
Excretion	The process of eliminating waste from the body.
Food chain	A series of living things which are linked to each other because each thing feeds on the one next to it in the series.
Fungi	Any of a group of spore-producing organisms feeding on organic matter, including moulds, yeast, mushrooms, and toadstools.
Habitat	The natural environment in which an animal or plant normally lives or grows.
Herbivore	An animal that only eats plants.
Invertebrate	A creature that does not have a spine, for example an insect, a worm or an octopus.
Life processes	There are seven processes that tell us that living things are alive.
Microbes	A microorganism, especially a bacterium causing disease or fermentation.
Micro habitat	A small part of the environment that supports a habitat, such as a fallen log in a forest.
Minibeast	A small invertebrate animal such as an insect or spider.
Nutrition	The process of taking food into the body and absorbing the nutrients in those foods.
Omnivore	Person or animal eats all kinds of food, including both meat and plants.
Organism	A living thing. a single-celled organism of the kingdom <i>Protista</i> , such as a protozoan or simple alga. "protists living in the surface layers of soil"
Reproduction	When an animal or plant produces one or more individuals similar to itself.
Respiration	Process of respiring, breathing; inhaling and exhaling air.
Sensitivity	Responding to the external environment.
Urban	Belonging to, or relating to, a town or a city.
Vegetation	Plants, trees and flowers.
Vertebrate	A creature which has a spine.
Biodiversity	The variety of plant and animal life in the world or in a particular habitat.

Diagram

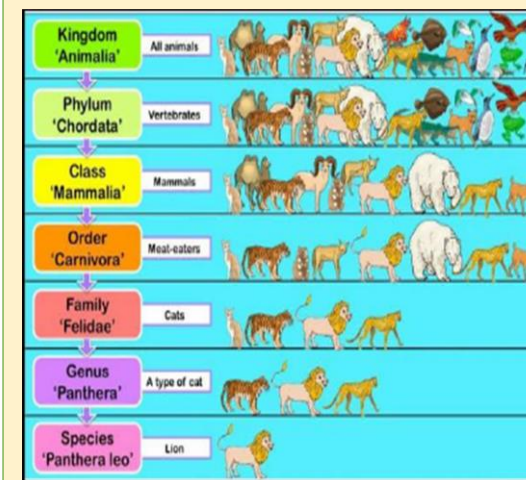


Diagram - Classification key

