Etwall Primary School

Living Things and their Habitats

Year 5/**6**

Key Vocabulary

Vertebrate
Animals that have a backbone. The major groups are fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.

Invertebrate
Invertebrates don't have a backbone. They either have a soft body, like worms and jellyfish, or a hard outer casing covering their body, like spiders, insects, crabs.

Fish
Fish live in water and have gills, scales and fins on their body. Fish lay eggs.

Amphibian
Amphibians are born in the water. When they are born, they breathe with gills. When they grow up, they develop lungs and can live on land. Such as a frog.

Reptile
Reptiles have scaly skin. They are cold blooded and are born on land such as snakes, lizards, crocodiles.

Bird
Animals that have feathers and hatch from hard-shelled eggs. Some people think that if an animal has wings then it must be a bird. Bats have wings but they are not birds. All birds have feathers.

Mammal
People are mammals. So are dogs, elephants and kangaroos. If an animal drinks its mother's milk when it is a baby and has hair on its body, it is a mammal.

Organism
An organism is any living thing.

Species
A species is a group of similar organisms that can breed with one another to produce offspring. For example, humans are one species and dogs are another species. Individuals of the same species can reproduce to make more individuals of the same species.
Flowering plant

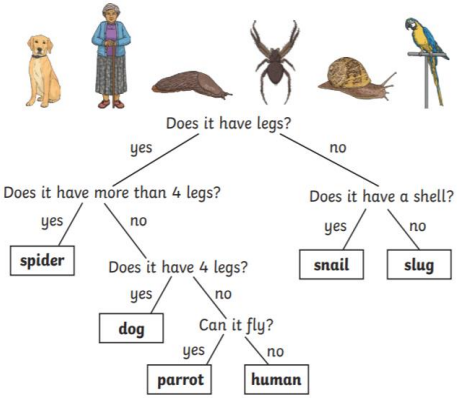
What is a living thing?
There are seven life processes which every living thing has in common - movement, reproduction, sensitivity, nutrition, excretion, respiration and growth (MRS GREN)

What is a habitat?
A habitat is a natural environment that an animal lives in.

Classification

Scientists believe that there could be as many as 10 million different species on Earth! It would be very hard to study the lives and behaviours of all these living things so scientists sort and group living things according to their similarities and differences. This is called classification. Scientists who classify living things are

Classification key is a set of questions about the characteristics of living things to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs.



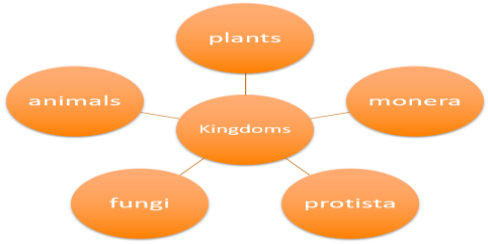
Carolus Linnaeus (1707 – 1778)

Living organisms are classified into groups depending on their characteristics. This system was developed in the 18th century by Carl Linnaeus.

Taxonomy
The naming, identifying and classifying organisms.

Kingdom
⬇
Phylum
⬇
Class
⬇
Order
⬇
Family
⬇
Genus
⬇
Species

The 5 Kingdoms



Microorganisms

- So tiny that you need microscope to see them.
- Are everywhere around us, inside us, on us, in our food, in the air we breathe and the water we wash in.
- Are mostly useful, but some are harmful.
- Have been around for 3.8 billion years.
- Are vital for life on Earth because they make oxygen.