

Year 6 Living Things & Their Habitats Knowledge Organiser

Key vocabulary

characteristics	qualities or appearances that make an individual or group of things different to others
classify	sort into different groups
taxonomist	a scientist who classifies different living things into categories
key	a series of questions about the characteristic of living things. This is used to decide which group a living thing belongs to, usually by answering yes or no
bacteria	a single-celled microorganism
microorganism	an organism that can only be seen using a microscope – bacteria, mould, yeast
microscope	a piece of equipment that is used to view very tiny (microscopic) things by magnifying their appearance
species	a group of animals that can reproduce to produce fertile offspring

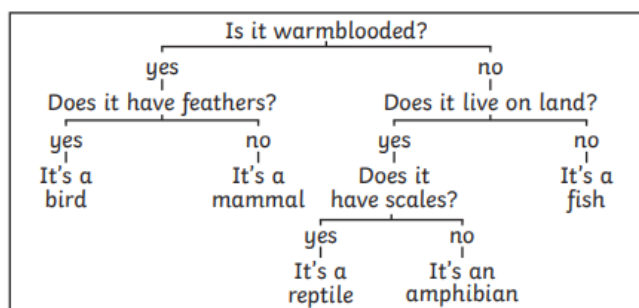
Key knowledge:

- ✓ In 1735, Swedish scientists Carl Linnaeus first published a system for classifying all living things. An adapted version of this system is still used today: The Linnaean system
- ✓ Living things can be classified by these eight levels. The number of living things in each level gets smaller until the one animal is left in its species level. This is how a dog would be classified

Domain: Eukarya	jackal, clownfish, cat, dog, ladybird, daisy, rabbit, fox
Kingdom: Animals	jackal, clownfish, cat, dog, ladybird, rabbit, fox
Phylum: Chordata	jackal, clownfish, cat, dog, rabbit, fox
Class: Mammals	jackal, cat, dog, rabbit, fox
Order: Carnivore	jackal, cat, dog, fox
Family: Canidae	jackal, dog, fox
Genus: Canis	jackal, dog
Species: Lupus	dog



- ✓ Classifying things into groups allows scientists to understand the characteristics of living things more clearly.
- ✓ Microorganisms are viruses, bacteria, mould and yeast. Some animals (dust mites) and plants (phytoplankton) are also microorganisms
- ✓ Microorganisms can be found in and on our bodies, in the air, in the water and on objects around us
- ✓ Some microbes are harmful and some are helpful



Key questions:

- What is classification?
- How are living things classified into different groups?
- How can we classify animals based on their characteristics?
- What are helpful and harmful microorganisms?
- What are the characteristics of different types of microorganisms?

Core text:

