

Science Year 4 - Living things and their Habitats



St Leonard's CE Primary Academy

Living and Learning Together with God's Help

Key Learning Points:

- Identify and sort animals according to their habitats. Identify why animals are suited to their environment.
- Research and understand habitats.
- Exploring how animals can be classified.
- To create an animal classification key that explains animal classification.
- To explore adaptation and classification within species.
- To explore and classify pond plants.

This topic will link to our curiosity driver as we explore the conservation of the environment is important for us and all classifications of animals.



Type	Food	Body	Blood
Mammal 	Can be carnivorous, omnivorous or herbivorous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair and fur • Four-chambered hearts • Females give milk • Have teeth • Vertebrates 	Warm-Blooded
Insect 	Can be carnivorous or herbivorous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made up of a head, thorax and abdomen • Six legs • Invertebrates 	Cold-Blooded
Bird 	Can be carnivorous, omnivorous or herbivorous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feathers • Wings • Beaks • Lays eggs • Vertebrates 	Warm-Blooded
Fish 	Mostly carnivorous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breathe with gills • Scales • Fins • Can swim • Most are vertebrates 	Cold-Blooded
Amphibian 	Can be carnivorous or herbivorous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live in water or land • Can breathe through gills or lungs • Vertebrates 	Cold-Blooded
Reptile 	Can be carnivores or omnivorous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most lay eggs • Has scales • Live in water or land • Vertebrates 	Cold-Blooded

Key Word	Definition
classify	To arrange or group things into categories depending on characteristics.
vertebrate	An animal with a backbone.
invertebrate	An animal without a backbone.
cold-blooded	An animal whose body temperature varies with the environment they are in, i.e. fish.
warm-blooded	Animals that maintain a regular body temperature
sample	A small amount of something to show what the whole of it may be like.
exoskeleton	An external covering of the body found in some invertebrates such as arthropods.
creature	An animal, distinct from a human being.

Key Facts

All living things, which can also be called organisms, have to do certain things to stay alive. These are the life processes : movement, respiration, sensitivity, growth, reproduction, excretion and nutrition.

Living things can be grouped according to different criteria (where they live, what type of organism they are, what features they have). For example a camel can belong in a group of vertebrates, a group of animals that live in the desert and a group of animals that has four legs.

A classification key, also known as a branched database or decision tree, is a tool used to sort living things to help us identify them.

Habitats can change throughout the year and this can have an effect on the plants and animals that live there.

Humans can have positive and negative effects on the environment :

Positive effects : nature reserves, ecological parks

Negative effects : litter, urban development