

Year 6 Spring 2 Science – Living Things and Their Habitats

Key Knowledge

- Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences including microorganisms, plants and animals.
- Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.
- Understand that animals can be grouped into vertebrates and invertebrates.
- Vertebrates include fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.
- Invertebrates include groups such as insects, arachnids, molluscs and annelids.
- Living things adapt to their habitats.
- Environmental change can effect living things and may cause species to become endangered or extinct.

Key Skills

- To be able to follow a classification key.
- Use scientific vocabulary accurately when describing living things.
- Record and present data using tables, charts and diagrams.
- Identify how living things are adapted to their environment.
- Explain how changes to environments affect plants and animals.
- Gather, record and interpret data from observations and research
- Draw conclusions and explain findings using scientific evidence.

Key Vocabulary

Bacteria	A single-celled microorganism
Microorganism	An organism that can only be seen using a microscope
Microscope	A piece of equipment that is used to view very tiny things by magnifying their appearance
Species	A group of animals that can reproduce to produce fertile offspring
Characteristics	Special qualities or appearances that make an individual or group of things different to others
Classify	To sort things into different groups
Taxonomist	A scientist who classifies different living things into categories
Key	A key is a series of questions about the characteristics of living things. A key is used to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs to by answering 'yes' or 'no' questions

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



