



Grouping living things

Animals can be put into one of two groups

Vertebrates – animals with a **backbone**
Invertebrates - animals without a backbone

Vertebrates

Vertebrates can be grouped 5 ways

- Fish
- Amphibians
- Reptiles
- Birds
- Mammals

How to spot a fish



- Breathes with gills
- Lays eggs in water
- Has fins and scales
- Its body changes temperature

How to spot an amphibian



- Born with gills then develops lungs
- Lays eggs in water
- Damp skin
- Body temperature changes

How to spot a reptile



- Breathes with lungs
- Lays eggs on land
- Dry scaly skin
- Body temperature changes

How to spot a bird



- Breathes with lungs
- Lays eggs with hard shells
- Has feathers
- Steady body temperature

How to spot a mammal



- Breathes with lungs
- Babies are born live
- Body hair or fur
- Steady body temperature
- Feeds babies milk

Invertebrates

Invertebrates can be grouped 4 ways

- Insects
- Arachnids
- Snails and slugs
- Worms

How to spot an insect



- 3 body sections
- 6 legs

How to spot an arachnid



- 2 body sections
- 8 legs

How to spot snails and slugs



- Slimy foot
- Often have a shell

How to spot a worm



- 0 legs
- Long tube-like body

Plant Groups

Plants can be put into one of two groups

Flowering plants
Non flowering plants

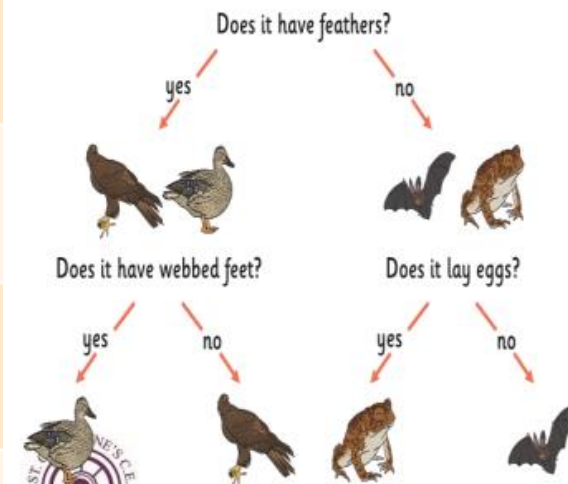
Flowering plants are made up of 4 groups

- Grasses
- Cereals
- Garden shrubs
- Deciduous trees

Non flowering plants are made up of 3 groups

- Algae
- Coniferous trees
- Ferns

Branched Diagram



Venn Diagram





Changing Habitats

Living things depend upon their habitats to give them everything they need, including food, water, air and a space to live and grow. Human beings are able to make big changes to their habitat to make it suitable for them to live in.

Some species are very good at adapting to changes in their habitats. These species are able to live alongside humans successfully in towns and cities.



Some animals can only survive in a particular habitat, such as rainforest, desert or marshland. When the habitat changes, these species find it very difficult to survive

Events like earthquakes, storms, floods, hurricanes, wildfires and droughts can have very serious consequences for living things. Habitats can be destroyed and the plants and animals that live there might be killed. Those animals that survive might find that their sources of food and water have disappeared. They may no longer have a safe place to live and grow.

Most of the changes to the habitats of living things are caused by humans. We call these changes man-made.



Deforestation

Many of the things that humans do, destroy animal habitats. Only a very small amount of the world's land is covered in rainforest, but about half of all plants and animals live here. Humans have cut down large areas of the forest to clear space for building or farming. This has destroyed the habitats of many species and made it difficult for them to survive.



Classifying plants and animals

Classifying is when you group things together that are similar. With so many living things to make records of, and so many yet to discover, it is important that we have a system to organise and make sense of the information we have about them.

We organise living things into groups based on their similarities and differences, so that we can learn more about what makes each species unique. The differences between living things is sometimes called variation.

Scientist: Greta Thunburg, The Eco-Warriors and you!

Vocabulary

Meaning

Invertebrate

Animal with no spine

Vertebrate

Animal with a spine

Amphibians

Animal that lives on land and water

Reptiles

Animal that produces eggs and uses the sun to keep its blood warm

Mammals

An animal where the female feeds her young on milk from her body

Flowering

Plant that produces flowers

Non-flowering

A plant with exposed seeds or spores.

Investigation: Use this knowledge to make simple guides and keys to explore and identify local plants and animals.