

Knowledge Organiser



Classifying Living Things



Enquiry Skills

Identifying, Grouping
and Classifying

Research

Sticky Knowledge

- Living things can be grouped into vertebrates (backbone) and invertebrates (no backbone).
- Vertebrates can be divided into smaller groups called mammals, amphibians, birds, fish and reptiles.
- Invertebrates can be divided into smaller groups called insects, molluscs and crustaceans.
- A classification key uses yes/no questions to sort living things.
- Habitats can change through the seasons.
- Habitats can be damaged or destroyed by humans, natural disasters or climate change. If habitats change, this can cause a species to decrease or increase.

Vocabulary

- **Classification** – this means sorting or grouping things by what they have in common.
- **Environment** – an environment is everything around a living thing, like the air, water, plants, animals and weather where it lives.
- **Taxonomist** – a scientist who names and groups living things to help us understand them better.
- **Human Impact** – this is how people change the world around them, sometimes in good ways and sometimes in bad ways.
- **Vertebrate** – an animal with a backbone.
- **Invertebrate** – an animal without a backbone.
- **Organisms** – living things.
- **Migrate** – to move from one place to another, often because of the weather or seasons.
- **Hibernate** – this means to go into a deep sleep during the winter to save energy, like bears and hedgehogs do.
- **Classification Key** – a special set of questions or clues that help you work out what an animal or plant is.