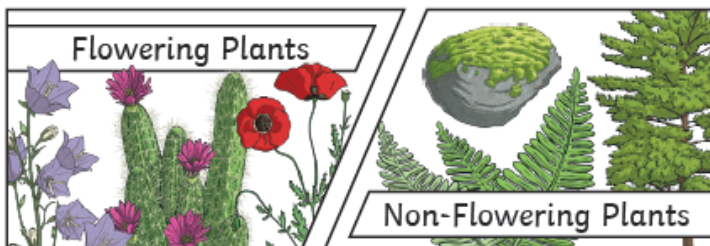


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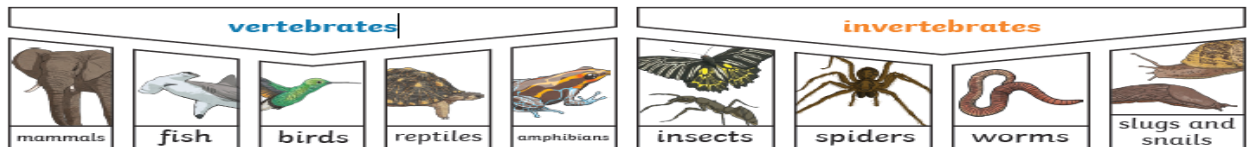
Knowledge organiser - Living things & Habitats

Key Vocabulary	
classification	This is where plants or animals are placed into groups according to their similarities.
vertebrates	Animals with a backbone.
invertebrates	Animals without a backbone.
specimen	A particular plant or animal that scientists study to find out about its species.
characteristics	The distinguishing features or qualities that are specific to a species.

Plants can be sorted into many different groups. For example:



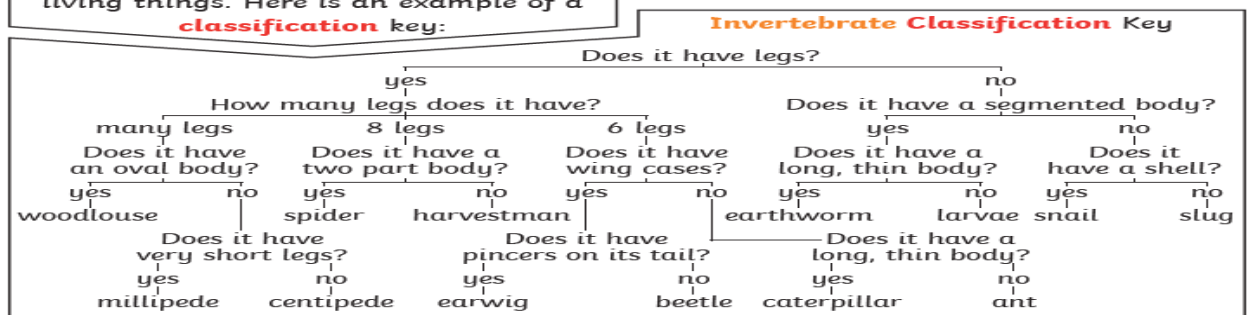
Animals can be grouped in lots of different ways based upon their **characteristics**.



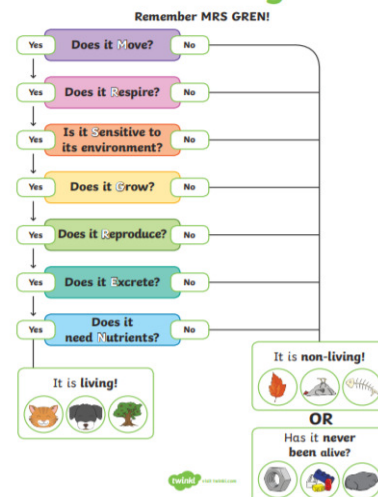
Vertebrates can be separated into five broad groups.

You can use **classification** keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things. Here is an example of a **classification** key:

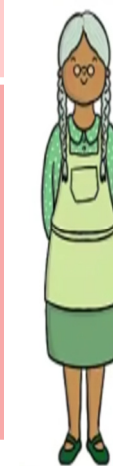
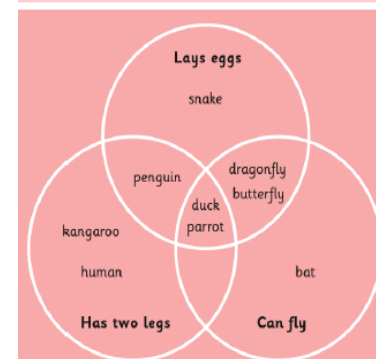
You could sort **invertebrates** you might see around school in different ways, such as in this example. The vast majority of living things on the planet are **invertebrates**.



Is It Living?



Venn Diagram



- Movement
- Respiration
- Sensitivity
- Growth
- Reproduction
- Excretion
- Nutrition

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Knowledge organiser - Living things & Habitats

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.



Key Vocabulary

organisms	This is another word that can be used to mean 'living things'.
life processes	The things living things do to stay alive.
respiration	A process where plants and animals use oxygen gas from the air to help turn their food into energy.
sensitivity	The way living things react to changes in their environment .
reproduction	The process through which young are produced.
excretion	The process by which living things get rid of waste products.
nutrition	The process of obtaining food to provide living things with energy to live and stay healthy.
habitat	The specific area or place in which particular animals or plants may live.
environment	An environment contains many habitats and these include areas where there are both living and non-living things.
endangered species	A plant or animal where there are not many of their species left and scientists are concerned that the species may become extinct .
extinct	When a species has no more members alive on the planet, it is extinct .

Changes to an **environment** can be natural or caused by humans. Changes to an **environment** can have positive as well as negative effects. Here are some examples of things that can change an **environment**.

Natural

- earthquakes
- storms
- floods
- droughts
- wildfires
- the seasons

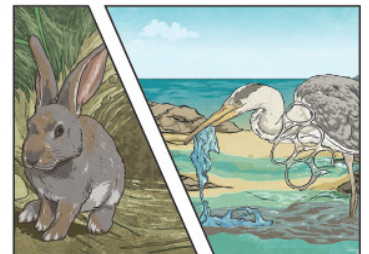
Human-Made

- deforestation
- pollution
- urbanisation
- the introduction of new animal or plant species to an **environment**
- creating new nature reserves

Life Processes

To stay alive and healthy, all living things need certain conditions that let them carry out the seven **life processes**:

Growth
Reproduction
Excretion
Nutrition
Movement
Respiration
Sensitivity



Plants and animals rely on the **environment** to give them everything they need. Therefore, when **habitats** change, it can be very dangerous to the plants and animals that live there.

