Living things and their habitats

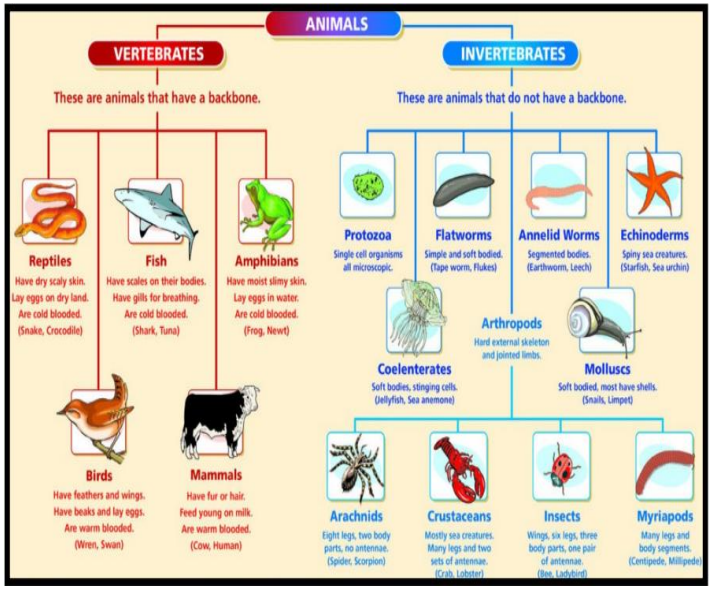
Year Group: 6 | **Subject Focus: Science** | **Term: Spring 1&2**

Key facts

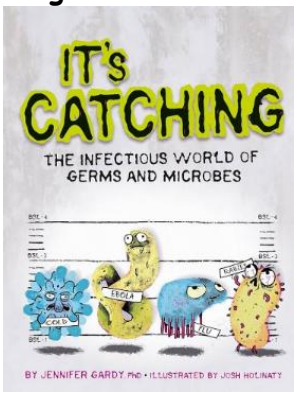
- Animals can be grouped into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. They can also be grouped into vertebrates and invertebrates.
- Organisms can be classified, and we can use a classification key to identify them.
- The categories for classifying vertebrates are: Reptiles, Fish, Amphibians, Birds and Mammals.
- Living things depend on each other in order to survive.
- Environments and habitats are changing, which impacts how well animals thrive.
- Food chains demonstrate the direction in which energy travels.
- Organisms have adapted and evolved over time.

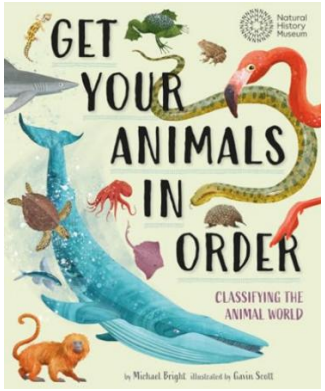
Did you know?

- A classification key is a tool that is used to group living things to help us identify them using recognisable characteristics. In 1735, Swedish Scientist Carl Linnaeus first published a system for classifying all living things. An adapted version of this system is still used today: The Linnaeus System.
- Microorganisms are very tiny living things. They are not visible to the naked eye, so a microscope is needed to see them. Microorganisms are found all around us, they can live in our bodies, in water, in the air and on the objects around us.
- Examples of microorganisms include dust mites, bacteria and fungi, such as mould.



Exciting books / web links:





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https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zsgtrwx

https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/community/collection/11373/micro-organisms

Key words:

Appearance	The way an organism looks in order to be classified.
Bacteria	Tiny living thing made up of just one cell. They are everywhere! They live in soil, on your skin and even in your gut.
Characteristic	A special feature or quality that helps us to describe a living thing.
Classification	The arrangement of organisms into orderly groups based on their similarities and presumed evolutionary relationships.
Disease	Something that harms how an organism works or functions.
Exoskeleton	A hard covering that protects the bodies of invertebrates.
Infection	Is when harmful microorganisms (such as germs) get inside the body and start to multiply.
Microorganism	An organism which is microscopic, making it too small to be seen by the human eye.
Organism	An individual animal, plant or single celled life form.
Virus	Miniscule germs that are much smaller than bacteria. Unlike most living things, viruses cannot survive on their own and need to invade a host cell to grow and multiply.

Parents as partners:

- Glitter Germ Investigation https://www.livinglifeandlearning.com/glitter-germ-experiment.html
- Experiments to do at home https://learning-center.homesciencetools.com/article/bacteria-experiment-guide/
- Create an animal fact file showing how they can be classified.
- Create a PowerPoint all about classifying animals and/or microorganisms.