

Key Vocabulary:

Classify – arrange (a group of people or things) in classes or categories according to shared qualities or characteristics

Characteristic – A distinguishing quality, trait or feature of an individual or thing

Variation – two animal/plants of the same species display different characteristics/behaviours

Observable – Able to be noticed or seen

Life cycle – The stages an organism e.g. animal, insect or plant passes through during their life time

Organism – A living thing

Micro-organism – A very small living thing which you can only see if you use a microscope

Adaption – A change in structure or function that improves the chance of survival for an animal or plant within a given environment

Evolution – A process of change that takes place over many generations, during which species of animals, plants, or insects slowly change some of their physical characteristics

Classification Key – A system that divides things into groups or types

Food Chain – A series of living things which are linked to each other because each thing feeds on the one next to it in the series

Vertebrate – A creature which has a spine

Invertebrate – A creature that does not have a spine, for example an insect, a worm, or an octopus

Carnivore – An animal that eats meat

Herbivore – An animal that only eats plants

Omnivore – An animal that eats both meat and plants



Holy Family Halewood Year 5 & 6 Science Living Things - Classification



Learning Objectives:

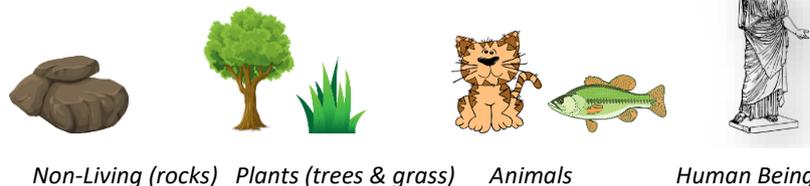
- To classify animals & plants based on specific characteristics, giving reasons for choices
- To classify animals into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals

Classification Key:



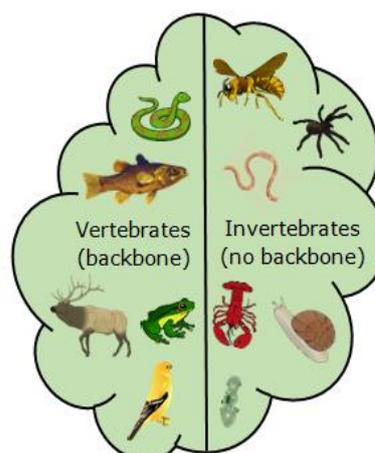
Living things can be grouped according to different criteria (where they live, what type of organism they are, what features they have). A **classification key** is a tool that is used to group living things to help us identify them using recognisable characteristics.

In about 350 B.C. Aristotle (a Greek philosopher) classified all things into 4 main groups.



Carl Linnaeus then simplified the naming of living things in 1735. Names of living things were often very long so he gave them a two-part (binomial) name. It was a mixture of genus and species (and in Latin) e.g. Human was Homo Sapien, Wolf was Canus Lupus and Lion was Felis Leo.

Vertebrates & Invertebrates:



Micro-organisms:

Microorganisms are very tiny organisms where a microscope has to be used to see them. Examples of microorganisms include dust mites, bacteria and fungi, such as mould. Some microorganisms can be helpful in certain situations. Others can be harmful, and their spread needs to be controlled or contained.

