

## 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:

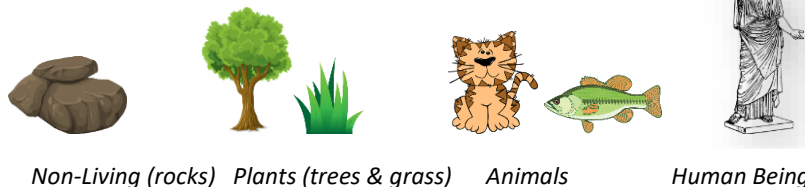
- To classify animals & plants based on specific characteristics, giving reasons for choices
- To classify animals into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals

### Classification Key:



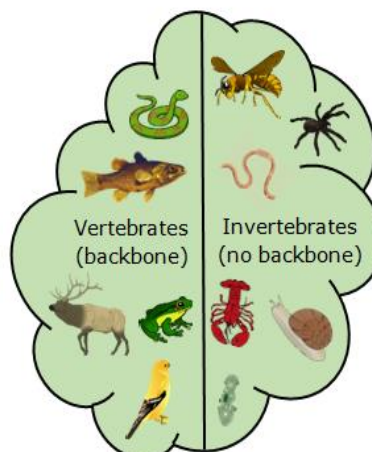
Living things can be grouped according to different criteria (where they live, what type of organism they are, what features they have). A **classification key** is a tool that is used to group living things to help us identify them using recognisable characteristics.

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.

