

Science Knowledge Organiser

Southwold Primary School



Topic: Living things and their habitats

Year: 6

Strand: Biology

What should I already know?

- Organisms can be classified and we can use a classification key to identify them.
- Animals can be grouped into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. They can also be grouped into vertebrates and invertebrates.
- Examples of habitats (including microhabitats) and the organisms that can be found there.
- Organisms depend on each other to survive.
- Environmental changes affect organisms.
- The relationships between predators and prey.
- Food chains demonstrate the direction in which energy travels.

Working Scientifically

- Make observations, compare to groups using a given classification key or one that is self created.
- Reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations.
- Planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions.

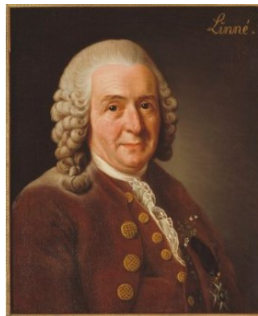
Vocabulary

carnivore	Animal or plant that eats only meat.
characteristic	The qualities or features that belong to them and make them recognisable.
classification key	A system of questions which divides things into groups or types.
criteria	The factor on which something is judged.
habitat	The natural environment in which an animal or plant normally lives or grows.
herbivore	An animal that eats only plants.
invertebrate	An animal which has no internal backbone.
micro-organism	A very small living thing which you can only see if you use a microscope.
omnivore	An animal eats all kinds of food, including both meat and plants.
organism	A living being.
predator	An animal that kills and eats other animals.
prey	An animal hunted or captured by another for food.
species	class of plants or animals whose members have the same main characteristics and are able to breed with each other
vertebrate	An animal which has a internal backbone.

What will I know by the end of this unit?

- A classification key is a tool that is used to group living things to help us identify them using recognisable characteristics.
- Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals.
- Classification helps us place a new organism based on our observations of this new organism because we can place it with a known organisms with similar characteristics.

Carl Linnaeus



Carl Linnaeus is a Swedish Scientist (1707) who came up with a classification system which is still used today.

It helps groups newly discovered animals, plants and micro-organisms and gives them a name that can be understood regardless of the languages spoken by different scientists.

A classification key (Do you remember from year 4?)

A classification key is a set of questions about the characteristics of living things.

You can use a key to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs to by answering the questions.

An example Classification Key:

