

| Prior Knowledge/Key knowledge | |
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| Key Facts | 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 |
| | Living things can be classified by these eight levels. The number of living things in each level gets smaller until the one animal is left in its species level. This is how a dog would be classified. |
| | Each group allows scientists to observe and understand the characteristics of living things more clearly. They group similar things together then split the groups again and again based on their differences. |
| | Scientists, called Taxonomists, sort and group living things according to their similarities and differences. |
| | Microorganisms are very tiny living things that can only be seen using a microscope. They can be found in and on our bodies, in the air, in water and on objects around us. |
| | Microorganisms are viruses, bacteria, moulds and yeast. Some animals (dust mites) and plants (phytoplankton) are also microorganisms. |



Living Things & Habitats - Classification

Term Three - Year 5 & 6

| Key Skills | |
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| Classify | Animals into certain groups. |
| Explain | The Linnaeus System. |
| Describe | Which characteristics place an animal in a specific group. |
| Create | A chart to show how you classify animals. |

| Vocabulary | |
|------------------------|---|
| Characteristics | Special qualities or appearances that make an individual or group of things different to others. |
| Classify | To sort things into different groups. |
| Taxonomist | A scientist who classifies different living things into categories. |
| Key | A key is a series of questions about the characteristics of living things. A key is used to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs to by answering 'yes' or 'no' questions. |
| Bacteria | A single-celled microorganism. |
| Microorganism | An organism that can only be seen using a microscope, e.g. bacteria, mould and yeast. |
| Microscope | A piece of equipment that is used to view very tiny (microscopic) things by magnifying their appearance. |
| Species | A group of animals that can reproduce to produce fertile offspring. |