Living things and their habitats

Carclaze Primary School Science Knowledge Organiser

Year 4



Prior learning to reactivate

- Classification of animals (e.g. herbivore, omnivore, carnivore) (Year 2)
- Food chains (Year 2)
- Habitat is natural home to plants and animals (Year
 2)

Key learning

Living things can be grouped in different ways.

Classification keys can help to group, identify and name living things.

Creating classification keys to help group, identify and name living things.

Changes to the environment can endanger living things.

Key vocabulary	
Classification	The action or process of grouping something.
Key	A list of symbols and explanation of what they mean.
Amphibian	A cold blooded vertebrate—their bodies don't automatically regulate their temperature.
Reptile	Cold blooded animals that lay eggs and have skin covered with hard dry scales.
Vertebrate	Animals that have a backbone inside their body.
Invertebrate	Animals that don't have a backbone.
Mammal	An animal that breathes air, has a backbone and gives birth to live young
Bird	Animals that have feathers, wings and lay eggs. They are warm blooded.
Environment	The physical surroundings on Earth.
Ecological	A way that concerns the relation of living organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings.
Deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees.
Nature reserve	An area of land managed so as to preserve its flora, fauna, and physical features.

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SCIENTIFIC SKILLS

By the end of the year, children should be able to...

- Ask their own questions relating to the topic
- Make predictions about the outcomes of investigations
- Set up simple practical investigations
- Be able to identify simple ways in which a fair test can be created
- Make simple observations, including through the use of a range of recording/measurement equipment
- Gather and record data
- Present data in a variety of ways, including diagrams, charts, tables, and graphs
- Draw simple conclusions on results and link back to the theory discussed
- Suggest improvements for further investigations

Opportunities for scientific enquiry within the unit:

- Children create their own classifications keys.
- Children to group objects and explain their choice of classification.
- Children to conduct surveys to find species of plant and animal in the local area.

