Living Things and their Habitats

Prior Learning

- explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive
- identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other
- identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats
- describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food

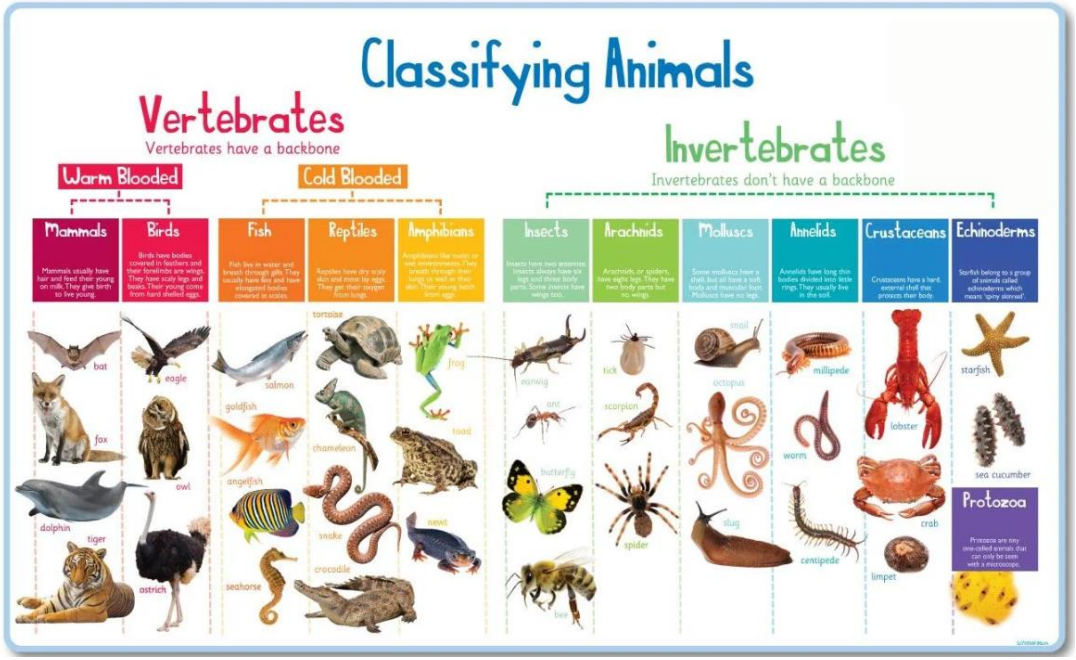
Grouping Animals

We can group animals into **five different groups** based on their characteristics.

Fish Mammal Reptile Amphibian Bird

Year 4 Learning

- recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways
- explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment
- recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.



Key Vocabulary

Vertebrate	Animals that have a backbone inside their body.
Invertebrate	Animals that don't have a backbone.
Movement	The state of changing something's position.
Respiration	A chemical reaction that occurs in all living plant and animal cells. It involves the release of energy from glucose to help fuel natural life processes.
Sensitivity	The way organisms respond to their environment.
Growth	An increase in size.
Reproduction	The process by which a living organism creates a likeness of itself.
Excretion	The process that removes waste products from the body.
Nutrition	The nutrients in food and how the body uses them.

There are seven things that all living things do, we call these life processes. All animals, including humans, do these and plants do too!

Movement
Respiration
Sensitivity
Growth
Reproduction
Excretion
Nutrition

Animals are adapted to suit their environment. However, if the environment changes, they may no longer be able to survive and reproduce. A change in environment can cause extinction. When a species is at risk of extinction, it is endangered. Over 1,100 animal species and over 700 plant species are classed as endangered or threatened.