Science-Living Things & Habitats
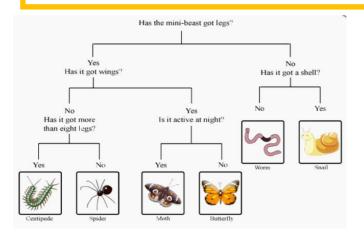
Overview

This topic examines use of classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things. We will be learning about the 7 characteristics of a living thing. We will consider how environments can change during the year and that this can have an impact on plants and animals that live there. We will then consider the positive (eg nature reserves) and negative (pollution) impact humans can have on the environment.

Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Vertebrate	Animals with a backbone.
Invertebrate	Animals without a backbone.
Living thing	Something which is now or was once alive.
Nutrition	The process of taking in food and how the body uses it.
Habitat	The natural home or environment of an animal, plant or other organism.
Environment	The natural world as a whole or a particular geographical area.
Life processes	The essential actions which determine if an animal or plant is alive.
Section	A part of something.
Deciduous	A tree that loses its leaves in Autumn and grows new ones in Spring,
Coniferous	A plant or tree that keeps its leaves all year.
Classification	Grouping living things together by their similarities or differences.

Rachel Carson

Rachel Carson was an American scientist who studied the ocean and the environment. She noticed that the water of the ocean had chemicals in it, and that the animals that lived in the ocean also had chemicals in their bodies.

Key knowledge

- Be able to identify and name a variety of living things in the local and wider environment.
- Be able to group animals into invertebrates and vertebrates.
- Understand that plants can be put into two groups flowering and non-flowering.
- Be able to identify some of the characteristics of a living thing.