

# Year 4: Living Things and Their Habitats

## WHAT?

### CLASSIFYING LIVING THINGS:

#### Living things can be grouped into different types:

Living things can mostly be grouped into animals, plants and micro-organisms.

All animals grow, take in air, reproduce, excrete and need nutrition

Animals can be grouped into different types such as amphibians, reptiles, mammals, fish, insects and birds.

Plants, like animals, are living things made of different types of cells (the building blocks that make an animal or plant).

Plants, unlike animals, do not move or seek out their food; like animals, they grow, take in air, reproduce and need nutrition.

#### Animals can be classified as invertebrates or vertebrates:

A classification key uses questions and criteria to sort and identify living things.

Scientists split animals into two broad groups: vertebrates and invertebrates.

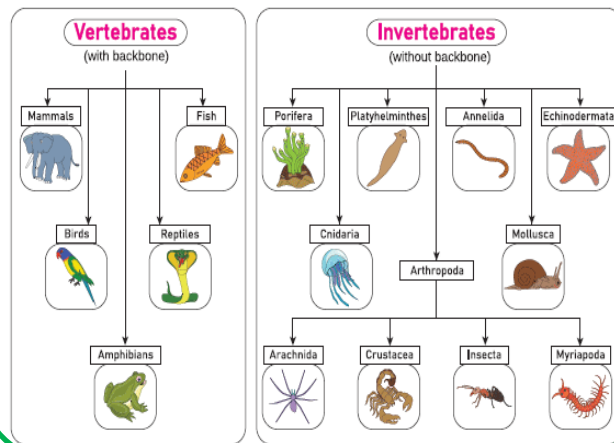
To be a vertebrate means to have a backbone; to be an invertebrate means they do not have a backbone.

Mammals, amphibians, fish, reptiles and birds are all vertebrates.

Invertebrates often have a hard shell which protects them.

Butterflies, dragonflies, spiders, jellyfish, lobsters, slugs, and snails are all examples of invertebrates.

### CLASSIFICATION OF ANIMALS



#### Invertebrates can be found in lots of different places:

Approximately 80% of living things and 98% of animal life are invertebrates.

Insects such as crickets, flies, ladybirds etc are invertebrates.

An annelid (worms, leeches etc.) is an invertebrate.

Crustaceans are invertebrates which can be found in the ocean and on land (crab, lobster, woodlice).

Molluscs are invertebrates which also can be found on the land or in the ocean (octopus, snail, slug).

Arachnids are invertebrates which can be found on land (spiders, scorpions, ticks etc.).

### WHO?

#### David Attenborough: 1926 - Present



Sir David Frederick Attenborough is an English broadcaster, biologist, natural historian and author.

He has introduced millions of people to a variety of animals from around the world.

He is also an important climate change campaigner.

#### Five Fun David Attenborough Facts:

Sir David has visited every continent on earth. He is thought to be one of the most-travelled humans in history.

He's had many different species named after him, from lizards and butterflies to plants and flowers.

He is the only person to have won BAFTAs for programmes broadcast in black and white, colour, HD, 3D and 4K.

David's brother is Richard Attenborough. He was an award-winning actor and director.

David admits that the only animal he doesn't like are rats.

#### Habitats can change over time:



Animals rely on their habitat for food, water, shelter and reproduction.

The local environment can change for several reasons including natural change and change due to human activity such as deforestation, pollution and urbanisation.

Changes to an environment mean that animals are less well adapted that they should be and find it difficult to survive.

## KEY VOCABULARY:



**ADAPTED:** become adjusted to new conditions



**CLASSIFICATION:** arrange in classes or groups according to shared qualities or characteristics



**CLASSIFICATION KEY:** a system which divides things into groups or types.



**CLIMATE CHANGE:** the long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns



**CRITERIA:** a factor in which something is judged



**EXTINCTION:** having no living members; no longer in existence



**MICRO-ORGANISMS:** a microscopic organism, especially a bacterium, virus or fungi



**POLLUTION:** the presence in the environment of a substance which has harmful or poisonous effects



**SPECIES:** a group of living organisms consisting of similar individuals capable of exchanging genes or breeding