

# Science Knowledge Organiser—Living Things and their Habitats

## Key Knowledge

Learn these key facts—key points in red

Key previous learning (see vocab for definitions)

herbivore/carnivore/omnivore

vertebrate/invertebrate

mammals/birds/fish/amphibians/reptiles

How can living things be grouped?

All living things, which can also be called organisms, have to do certain

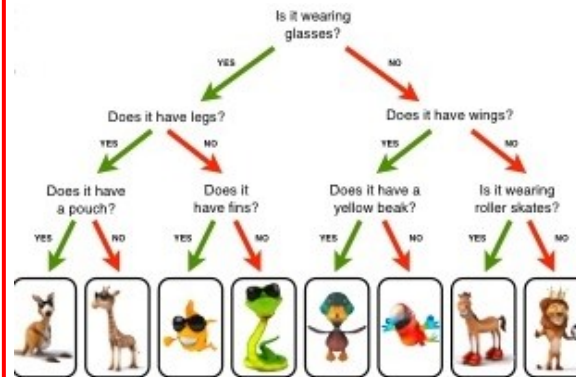
things to stay alive. these are the life processes:

Living things can be grouped according to different criteria—where they live, what type of organism they are, what features they have. E.g., a camel can belong in a group of vertebrates, a group of animals that live



What is a classification key?

A classification key is a tool that uses yes/no questions



How can environments change?

Habitats can change throughout the year and this can have an effect on the plants and animals living there. Humans can have positive effects on the environment, e.g. nature reserves, but instead often damage it.

People-made Threats to the Environment

Air-pollution from cars, e.g. carbon monoxide, and the burning of fossil fuels.



Water pollution through industrial waste and farm fertilisers that can pollute rivers and streams.

Rubbish—Plastic and household waste ends up on the streets, in the sea or in rubbish dumps, destroying habitats and wildlife.

## Key Vocabulary

Understand these key words

Word	Definition
<b>amphibian</b>	a cold-blooded vertebrate that can live in water and on land.
<b>biomes</b>	a natural area of vegetation and animals .
<b>bird</b>	warm-blooded vertebrates with feathers, pointed beaks and wings.
<b>carnivore</b>	an animal that eats meat.
<b>classification key</b>	a system which divides things into groups or types.
<b>criteria</b>	a factor on which something is judged.
<b>environment</b>	all the physical surroundings on Earth including everything living and non-living.
<b>excretion</b>	the process of eliminating waste from the body.
<b>fish</b>	cold-blooded (mainly) vertebrates that can only live in water.
<b>habitat</b>	the natural environment in which an animal or plant lives or grows.
<b>herbivore</b>	an animal that only eats plants.
<b>invertebrate</b>	creature that does not have a spine.
<b>life processes</b>	the seven processes that tell us that living things are alive.
<b>mammal</b>	a warm-blooded vertebrate that breaths air and grows hair.
<b>microhabitat</b>	a small part of the environment that supports a habitat.
<b>nutrition</b>	the process of taking food into the body and absorbing nutrients.
<b>omnivore</b>	person or animal that eats both meat and plants.
<b>organism</b>	a living thing.
<b>reproduction</b>	when an animal or plant produces one or more copies of itself.
<b>reptile</b>	cold-blooded vertebrates.
<b>respiration</b>	process of respiring; breathing ; inhaling and exhaling air.
<b>sensitivity</b>	responding to the external environment.
<b>vegetation</b>	plants, trees and flowers.
<b>vertebrate</b>	a creature which has a spine.

### Focus Scientists — Carl Linnaeus

**Carl Linnaeus** (1707-1778) was a botanist, zoologist and physician. He's most famous for simplifying the naming system scientists use to describe the millions of species on Earth.



### Rachel Carson

**Rachel Carson** (1907-1964) was a marine biologist. She was most famous for her book *Silent Spring* (1962) which warned of the damage humans were doing to the environment and led to the

