

All About Living Things: Year 4 Knowledge Mat

Exciting Books/ Resources

- Habitat hunt around school grounds
- Using and making their own PowerPoint classification key

Important Bits

- 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.

Links to prior learning

Year 1 - classification of living things (mammals, reptiles, amphibians etc)

Year 2 -To stay alive all animals have three basic needs for survival - air, water, food.

Sticky Knowledge about Sorting Living Things and their Habitats



- Living things can be grouped into vertebrates (backbone) and invertebrates (no backbone)
- Vertebrates can be divided into smaller groups called mammals, amphibians, birds, fish, reptiles
- Invertebrates can be divided into smaller groups such as insects, molluscs and crustaceans
- A classification key uses yes/no questions to sort living things
- Habitats can change through the seasons
- Habitats can be damaged or destroyed by humans (e.g. deforestation), natural disasters or climate change
- If habitats change, this can cause a species to decrease or increase
- A habitat is a place which has the right food, shelter and weather conditions for a particular living thing

Subject Specific Vocabulary

adaptation	How a living thing has adapted to fit its environment.
amphibian	Cold blooded, can live on land or in water, e.g. Frogs, newts, toads, salamanders.
biodiversity	The variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat. (Warmer habitats have more biodiversity).
classification	The grouping together of similar species of living things. They have similar characteristics.
exoskeleton	A hard covering on the outside of the body (e.g. centipedes, ladybirds)
invertebrate	An animal lacking a backbone, such as an insect, mollusc or crustacean.
mammal	A warm-blooded vertebrate animal which usually has hair or fur, gives birth to live young and usually provides milk for their young.
organism	An individual animal or plant.
reptile	A cold blooded, vertebrate animal with dry scaly skin which lays eggs on land. E.g. snakes, lizards, crocodiles, turtles.
vertebrate	An animal with a backbone, e.g. mammal, fish, bird, reptile or amphibian.