



Science – Year 6

Living Things and Their Habitats

(Previous knowledge – refer to Knowledge Organiser Year 4 and Year 5 – Living Things and Their Habitats)

Vocabulary

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Characteristic	Insect	Taxonomist
Environment	Species	Bacteria
Key	Habitat	Microorganism
Mammal	Vertebrate	Subdivide
Amphibian	Invertebrate	Domain
Reptile	Classify	Genus

Useful Resources

- Picture cards of different living things to sort and classify.
- Model characteristic keys and sentence STEMS.
- Microscopes.

Key Scientists:

Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778): In 1735, Swedish Scientist Carl Linnaeus first published a system for classifying all living things. An adapted version of this system is still used today, called The Linnaeus System.



How a Dog Would be Classified Using the Linnaeus System:

Domain	Jackal, clownfish, cat, dog, ladybird, daisy, rabbit, fox
Kingdom	Jackal, clownfish, cat, dog, ladybird, rabbit, fox
Phylum	Jackal, clownfish, cat, dog, rabbit, fox
Class	Jackal, cat, dog, rabbit, fox
Order	Jackal, cat, dog, fox
Family	Jackal, dog, fox
Genus	Jackal, dog,
Species	Dog

Key Questions/Facts

How can living things be classified?

- Living things can be classified by eight levels.
- The number of living things in each level gets smaller until the one animal is left in its species.

Why do scientists classify living things?

- Grouping living things allows scientists to observe and understand their characteristics more clearly.

What is a taxonomist?

- Scientists, called Taxonomists, sort living things according to their similarities and differences.

What is a microorganism?

- Microorganisms are viruses, bacteria, moulds and yeast. Some animals (mites) and plants (phytoplankton) are also microorganisms.
- Microorganisms are very tiny living things that can only be seen using a microscope. They can be found in and on our bodies, in the air, in water and on objects around us.

Characteristic Key:

