Topic: Living things and their habitats

What should I already know?

- Animals can be grouped into vertebrates (and then further into fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds and mammals) and invertebrates
- Animals can be grouped into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores
- The differences between the teeth of carnivores and herbivores.
- The names of some common wild and garden plants and deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Examples of **habitats** (including **microhabitats**) and the animals and plants that can be found there.
- Living things depend on each other to survive.
- How food chains and food webs work.
- How land use has changed over time and the effects this has on the environment (e.g. urban development)

Vocabulary				
biomes	a natural area of vegetation and animals			
carnivore	an animal that eats meat			
classification key	a system which divides things into groups or types			
criteria	a factor on which something is judged			
deciduous	trees that lose leaves in the autumn every year			
environment	all the circumstances, people, things, and events around them that influence their life			
evergreen	a tree or bush which has green leaves all the year round			
excretion	the process of eliminating waste from the body			
food chain	a series of living things which are linked to each other because each thing feeds on the one next to it in the series			
habitat	the natural environment in which an animal or plant normally lives or grows			
herbivore	an animal that only eats plants			
invertebrate	a creature that does not have a spine, for example an insect, a worm, or an octopus			
life processes	There are seven processes that tell us that living things are alive			
microhabitat	a small part of the environment that supports a habitat , such as a fallen log in a forest			
minibeast	a small invertebrate animal such as an insect or spider			
nutrition	the process of taking food into the body and absorbing the nutrients in those foods			
omnivore	person or animal eats all kinds of food, including both meat and plants			
organism	a living thing			
reproduction	when an animal or plant produces one or more individuals similar to itself			
respiration	process of respiring; breathing; inhaling and exhaling air			
sensitivity	responding to the external environment			
urban	belonging to, or relating to, a town or city			
urbarr	belonging to, or relating to, a town or city			
vegetation	plants, trees and flowers			

What will I know by the end of the unit?

Strand: Biology

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:
 - movement

Year: 4

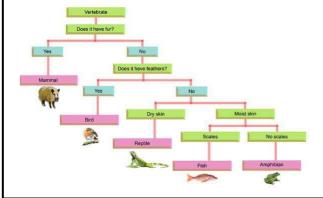
- respiration
- sensitivity
- growth
- reproduction
- excretion
- nutrition



 Living things can be grouped according to different criteria (where they live, what type of organism they are, what features they have). For example, a camel can belong in a group of vertebrates, a group of animals that live in the desert, and a group of animals that have four legs.

What is a classification key?

• A **classification key** is a tool that is used to group living things to help us identify them.



How can **environments** change?

- **Habitats** can change throughout the year and this can have an effect on the plants and animals that live there.
- Humans can have positive and negative effects on the environment:
 - positive effects: nature reserves, ecological parks
 - negative effects: litter, **urban** development

Investigate!

- Complete Venn diagrams to show if living things can be grouped into two or more groups .
- Use criteria to sort living things in a Carroll diagram.
- Sort **vertebrate** and **invertebrate** animals into groups, describing their key features. Use a **classification key** to identify which group of **vertebrates** animals belong to and then create your own.
- Sort plants into groups (e.g. flowering plants and non-flowering plants) and then create a **classification key** to help others identify plants.
- Carefully observe minibeasts in a microhabitat and use a classification key to identify them.
- Use simple computer software programmes to create a branching classification key.
- Explore examples of human impact (both positive and negative) on **environments**.

Question 1: Which of these is not a vertebrate?	Start of unit:	End of unit:
bird		
mammal		
reptile		
insect		
amphibian		

rabbit

frog

does not lay eggs

Question 2: A duck and a fish are similar because(tick three)	Start of unit:	End of unit:
they are both vertebrates		
they both need food and water to survive		
they both breathe using gills		
they are both invertebrates		
they both lay eggs		

Question 3: Write the belong.	word of each living thing in	the Venn diagram to	show where they	Start of unit:	End of unit:
camel cactus cactus polar bear whale	has four legs	can be found in the desert			
Question 4: Write the belong.	word of each living thing ir	the Carroll diagram	to show where they	Start of unit:	End of unit:
salmon		can fly	can not fly		
sparrow	lays eggs				

estion 5: Complete the table by a	ion 5: Complete the table by adding the name of the minibeast in the right place.				Start of unit:	End of unit
fly	spider	worm	ants			
name		legs		wings		
		6		0		
		0		0		
		8		0		
		6		2		

Question 6: Which three things do all animals do?	Start of unit:	End of unit:
move		
walk		
reproduce		
grow		

Question 7: What can we use to help us accurately identify living things?	Start of unit:	End of unit:
a food chain		
looking after the environment		
a classification key		
living processes		

Question 8: Name one thing that makes these them different.	animals similar and one thing that makes	Start of unit:	End of unit:
similar	different		

ach box?	Which question belongs in	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Yes Box 1 Yes No	No Box 2		
Yes No No penguin	cow		
Yes No Frog giraffe	Box Number (1, 2 or 3)		
Yes No Frog giraffe owl	505.50E		
Yes No Frog giraffe No penguin Question	505.50E		

Question 10: List one way in which we help the local environment.	Start of unit:	End of unit: