



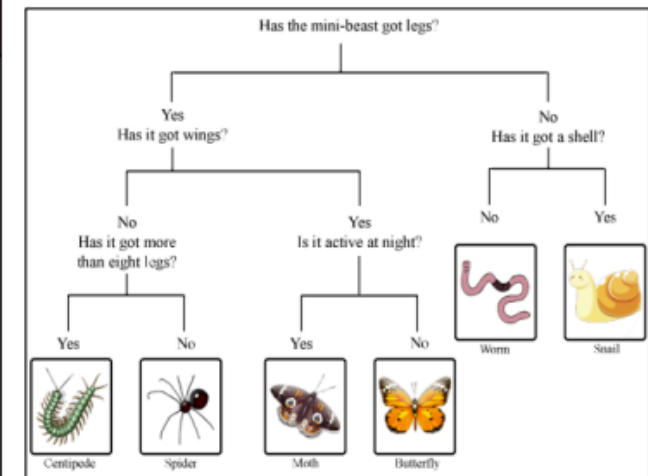
Year 4 - Living Things

What should I already know?

- Plants need air, light, nutrients and water for them to grow.
- Animals have offspring
- Humans and animals need water and food to survive.

Classification - sorting and grouping

- All living things can be grouped in different ways based on similarities.
- Living things can be divided into vertebrates and invertebrates.
- Living things can be grouped based on their appearance and features.
- Living things can also be grouped based on the habitats they live in or their environment.



Key Vocabulary

Classification	The process of sorting different animals and plants into groups.
Vertebrates	Living organism that has a back bone.
Invertebrates	Living organism that doesn't have a back bone.
Environment	The surroundings or conditions that something lives in.
Habitat	The specific place where an organism lives
Climate	The weather conditions in a particular area
Adaptation	The way an organism changes to live in its habitat.
Urbanisation	When a place changes to be more like a city. E.g. Countryside changes and has more buildings, roads and people.
Organism	A living thing

How changing environments can be dangerous to habitats

Climate change

Global warming is causing environments to change and this is affecting habitats.

Example - Ice caps in the Arctic are melting because global temperatures have gone up and that means habitats for polar bears, penguins, arctic foxes and other organisms are being damaged and destroyed.

Urbanisation

More cities, towns are being built so countryside is changing. That means there is less woodland/forest habitats for organisms as their environments are changing from natural to man made and this is dangerous for those organisms.

Deforestation

Forests and large areas of woodland are being cut down to supply wood to people.

Example - large areas of the Amazon Rainforest are being cut down to supply wood and this is destroying the rainforest habitats and contributing to global warming and climate change.

Intensive Farming

With more urbanisation happening there is need for more food. Farmers will clear land (usually in the countryside) to create more farmland. This will have a negative impact on habitats in that area.

Nature Reserves

Not all change to environment is bad. Nature reserves are specially created changes to the land to help preserve habitats or to create safer environments for the existing habitats and organisms.