



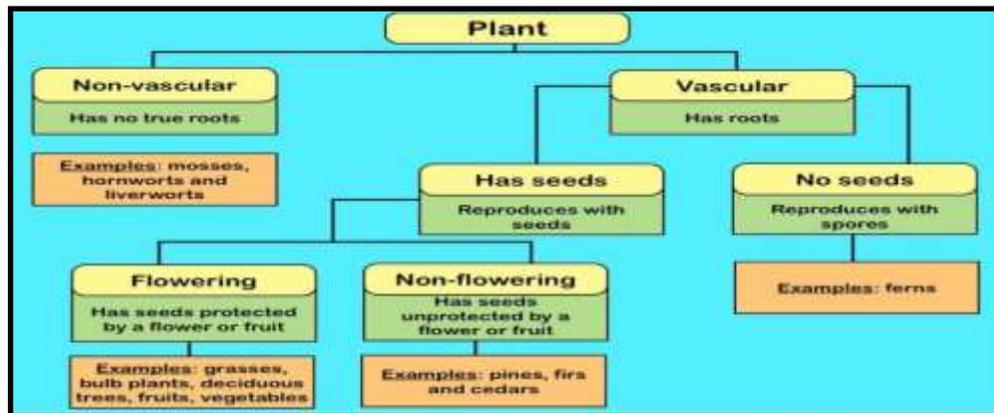
Living things and their habitats Year 6

What I need to know

- Living things can be grouped according to their characteristics.
- Animals and plants are the two main groups of living things.
- There are other living things that do not fit into these groups, such as microorganisms (bacteria and yeast, for example).
- Animals can be divided into two main groups: those that have backbones (vertebrates) and those that do not (invertebrates).
- Vertebrates are divided into five small groups: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.
- Invertebrates can be divided into a number of groups, including insects, spiders, snails and worms.
- Plants can be divided broadly into two main groups: flowering plants and non-flowering plants.

Classification keys

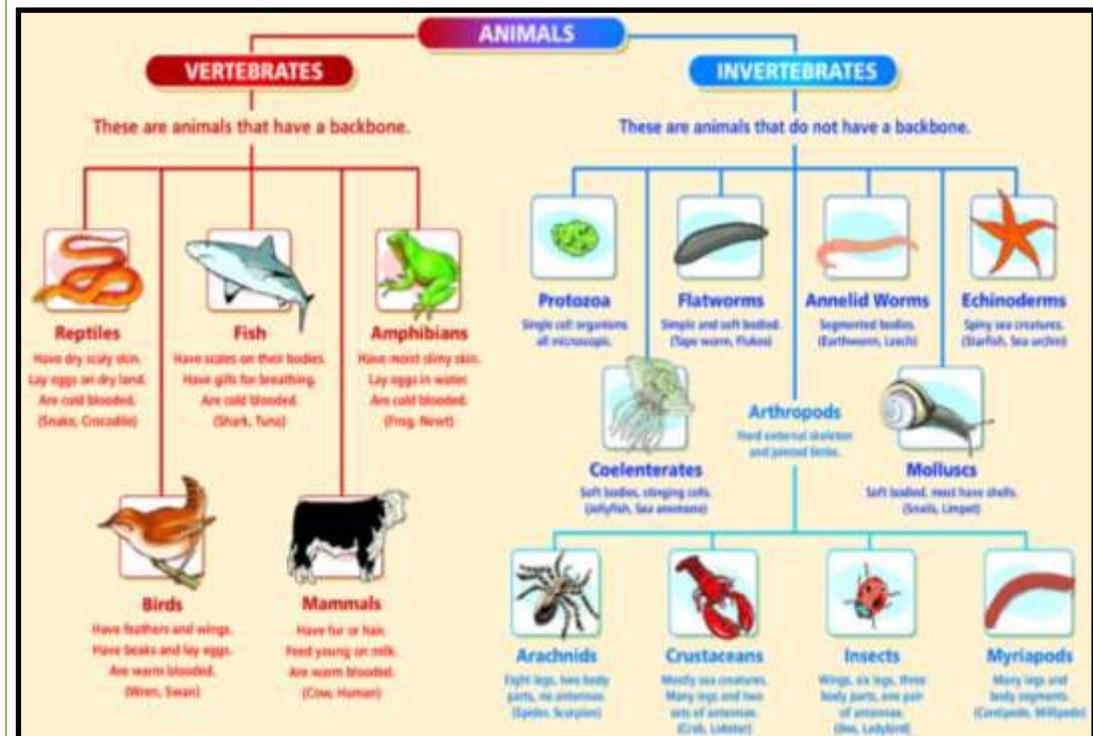
A classification key is a set of questions about the characteristics of living things. Scientist use keys to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs by answering questions.



Carolus Linnaeus is the father of taxonomy. He developed a hierarchical system of classification of nature. This system includes 8 taxa. For example, kingdoms (including plants and animals) to species.

Key Vocabulary

Classification	The arrangement of organisms into orderly groups based on their characteristics.
Microorganisms	Extremely small living things that can only be seen with a microscope.
Organism	An individual animal, plant or single-cell lifeform.
Species	A group of closely related organisms that are very similar to each other and are usually able to produce offspring.
Taxonomy	The science of naming, identifying and classifying organisms.
Bacteria	Tiny, single-celled microorganisms that are everywhere around us
Virus	Very small microorganisms that can infect animals and plants and make them sick.
Population	A group of species living in a particular place.
Reproduce	To produce offspring.





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