

Year 6 Living things and their habitats



Key vocabulary		
Bacteria	A living cell which can cause infection	
Classification	The arrangement of animals and plants into groups according to their observed similarities.	
Conifers	A tree that bears cones and needle-like or scale-like leaves that are typically evergreen.	
Ferns	A flowerless plant which has feathery leaves and reproduces by spores released from the undersides of the leaves	
Flowering plants	A plant that produces flowers	
Fungus	A Spore producing organism	
Linnaean system	A way of organising living things based on shared characteristics.	
Microorganism	A small living thing that needs a microscope to be seen.	
Mosses	A small flowerless green plant.	
Plants	A living organism that takes in water through their roots and nutrients through their leaves.	
Protozoa	A living cell that eats bacteria and food.	
Virus	A living cell which lives inside the body	

Key Knowledge			
Preceding	•	Everything in the world is either living, dead or has never lived.	
	•	Living things can be grouped into different categories - mammals, birds, fish and amphibians, reptiles, insects and plants.	
	•	Classification keys are flow charts that help us decide which category a living thing fits into.	
	•	Leaves can be classified by looking at their shapes using a leaf margins chart.	
	•	Plants can be classified into flowering, mosses, ferns and conifers.	
Current	•	Microorganisms are the smallest living things. Some can be harmful, and others can be helpful.	
	•	Different conditions either help or hinder the growth of microorganisms.	
	•	When I classify, I should give similarities and differences as well as reasons for classifying plants and animals in a specific way.	
	•	Carl Linnaeus created the Linnaean system to classify living things. It compares living things based on similar characteristics.	

Scientific Enquiry		
Identifying and classifying	How can I use a classification chart to help me work out what category a platypus belongs to? What questions do I need to ask to help me use the Linnaean system? CLASSIFICATION OF ANIMALS Phylum Kingdom	
Comparative and Fair Testing	How do the different environments affect the bread? Where in the school has the most microorganisms?	
Observing over time	What happens to a slice of bread if you leave it in different conditions for two weeks?	
Research	Are microrgansism always harmful? How can we use microorganisms for good? What everyday objects have microorganisms in them?	