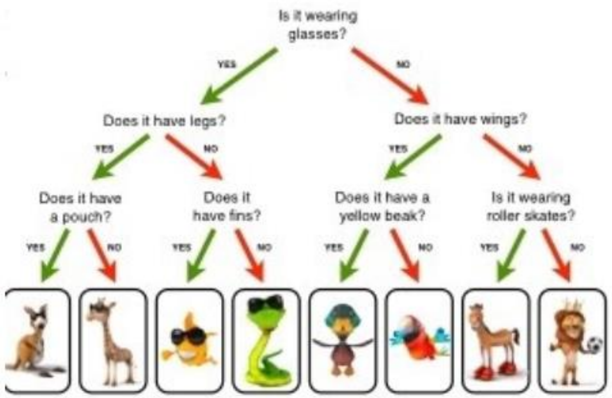
Science – Living things and their habitats

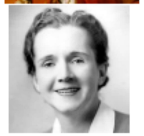
Classification Key

A classification key is a tool that uses yes/no questions to find out what type of animal it is.



Famous Scientists

Focus Scientists — Carl Linnaeus **Carl Linnaeus** (1707-1778) was a botanist, zoologist and physician. He's most famous for simplifying the naming system scientists use to describe the millions of species on Earth.



Rachel Carson **Rachel Carson** (1907-1964) was a marine biologist. She was most famous for her book Silent Spring (1962) which warned of the damage humans were doing to the environment and led to the

Environmental change

How can environments change?

Habitats can change throughout the year and this can have an effect on the plants and animals living there. Humans can have positive effects on the environment, e.g. nature reserves, but instead often damage it.

People-made Threats to the Environment

Air-pollution from cars, e.g. carbon monoxide, and the burning of fossil fuels.

Water pollution through industrial waste and farm fertilisers that can pollute rivers and streams.

Rubbish—Plastic and household waste ends up on the streets, in the sea or in rubbish dumps, destroying habitats and wildlife.

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:

Living things can be grouped according to different criteria—where they live, what type of organism they are, what features they have. E.g., a camel can belong in a group of vertebrates, a group of animals that live

Key Vocabulary

Vertebrate	A creature which has a spine.
Invertebrate	A creature that does not have a spine.
Mammal	A warm-blooded vertebrate that breaths air and grows hair.
Fish	Cold-blooded vertebrates that can only live in water.
Bird	Warm-blooded vertebrates with feathers, beaks and wings.
Amphibian	Cold-blooded vertebrate that can live in water and on land.
Reptile	Cold-blooded vertebrates.
Respiration	Process of respiting; breathing; inhaling and exhaling air.
Herbivore	An animal that only eat plants.
Carnivore	An animal that eats meat.
Omnivore	Person or animal that eats both meat and plants.

Living things and their habitats– Skills – Working Scientifically

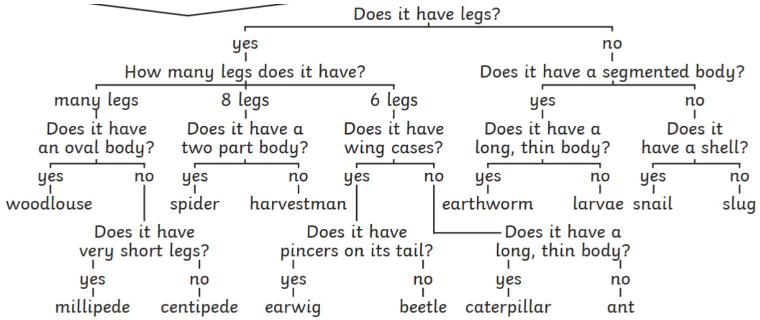
National Curriculum

Gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in a variety of ways to help answer questions.

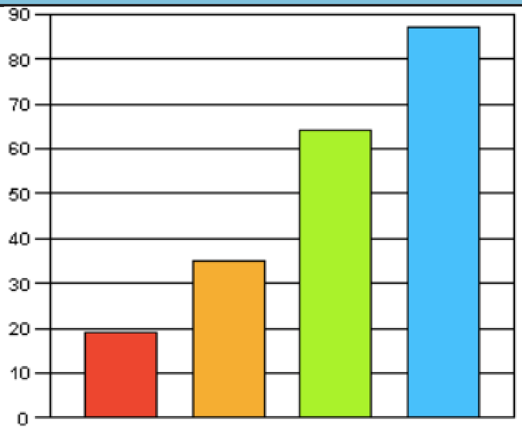
Recording findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts and tables.

Classification

You can use **classification** keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things. Here is an example of a **classification** key:



Bar chart



Key Vocabulary

classify	To arrange a group of people/organisms or things into classes or categories.
compare	Note similarities and differences between different things e.g. compare different types of materials
biology	Biology is the scientific study of life.
bar graph	These graphs are used to compare data using bars.
axis	Line graphs consist of two axes: x-axis (horizontal) and y-axis (vertical)
data	Information that has been collected.
group	To put people/organisms or things into different sections.
key	Keys are used to identify different species. A key will usually ask questions based on easily identifiable features of an organism.
research	To find out about something using a range of sources.

Scientific Equipment

Magnifying glass		Petri dish	
teaspoon