

Year 6 Knowledge Organiser Science – Living things and their habitats |

Key Vocabulary

microorganism	A microorganism is an organism you can only see through a microscope.
species	A species is a group of organisms with similar characteristics that can reproduce to produce fertile offspring.
characteristic	A characteristic is a particular feature or quality that is specific to an individual, group or species.
organism	An individual animal, plant or single-celled life form.
classification	Classification is the process of grouping living things according to their similarities.
vertebrates	A vertebrate animal is one that has a backbone.
invertebrates	An invertebrate animal does not have a backbone and 97% of creatures belong to this group.
taxonomy	The science of naming, identifying and classifying organisms.



Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778)
Father of Classification

Micro-organisms

Microorganisms are very tiny living things. They are so small that they are not visible to the naked eye, so a microscope is needed to see them. Microorganisms can be found all around us. They can live on and in our bodies, in the air, in water and on the objects around us. They can be found in almost every habitat.



Levels of Classification

Kingdom	5 widely accepted kingdoms for classification: monera, protists, fungi, plants and animals.
Phylum	Divisions based on shared physical characteristics among organisms.
Class	Classes are based on very important, and more detailed, similarities.
Order	Orders are based on characteristics listed on a taxonomy key.
Family	Groups of organisms that share certain adaptive traits. They have a common ancestry.
Genus	A way to describe the generic name for an organism.
Species	Species is the specific name given to a living organism.

Classification of Animals

Classification of Plants

