Year 6—Living Things and Their Habitats Knowledge Organiser

What? (Key Knowledge)	
Grouping living things	
Animals can be put into one of two groups	Vertebrates or Invertebrates
Vertebrates	
Vertebrates	Are animals with a backbone
There are 5 ways Vertebrates can be grouped	 Fish Amphibians Reptiles Birds Mammals
How to spot a Fish	 Breathes with gills/lays eggs in water/ has fins and scales/its body temperature changes
How to spot an Amphibian	 Born with gills then develops lungs/ lays eggs in water/damp skin/body temperature changes
How to spot a Reptile	 Breathes with lungs/lays eggs on land/ dry scaly skin/body temperature changes
How to spot a Bird	 Breathes with lungs/lays eggs with hard shells/has feathers/steady body temperature
How to spot a Mammal	 Breathes with lungs/babies are born live/body hair or fur/steady body temperature/feeds babies milk
Invertebrates	
Invertebrates	Invertebrates are animals with no backbones.
There are 3 ways Invertebrates can be grouped	 Insects Arachnids Molluscs
How to spot an Insect	 3 body sections/6 legs
How to spot an Arachnid	 2 body sections/8 legs
How to spot a Mollusc	 Slimy foot/Often have a shell
Deciding which animal or plant is which	
Key Features to distinguish between animals	 Invertebrate or Vertebrate Mammal/Reptile/Fish/Amphibian/Bird Colour Length Number of legs Number of body segments Distinguishing features Habitat
Key Features to distinguish between plants	 Flowering or Non-Flowering Grass/cereal/garden shrub/deciduous/ algae/coniferous/fern Colour Height Number of flowers Fruit bearing or not Distinguishing features Usual location
Scientists we need to know about	
3 facts about Carl Linnaeus	 Born in Sweden on 23rd May 1707 A leading light in the field of Taxonomy Famous for developing the first system to classify animals effectively.





What are 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 on Earth .

Some plants and animals are micro-organisms. For example the dust mite and plankton:

word for any fungus

that grows on food or

other materials.



Plankton are microscopic organisms drifting in fresh or sea water, including plants and animals.

Bacteria are single-celled microorganisms. Bacteria are found in diverse habitats all over the Earth.

This image was produced by a scanning electron microscope. It shows a clump of staphylococcus epidermidis bacteria that is typically found growing on human skin, usually harmlessly



Other microorganisms are fungi, such as mould, yeast and Penicillium:



Penicillium fungus is used to make the antibiotic penicillin.

Yeast is a microscopic fungus that can be used to raise bread dough.



Harmful micro-organisms:

- The fungi that grows on our food (mould)
- Chicken pox caused by a virus
- Influenza virus
- Food poisoning caused by bacteria that grow on uncooked or undercooked food

Helpful micro-organisms:

- Yeast is added to bread dough to make it rise
- Antibiotics made from fungi kill infections from bacteria

An influenza virus particle. This micro-organism could cause you to have the flu. Sometimes viruses are called micro-organisms but they aren't really alive. They are infectious agents that replicate inside the cells of living things. Scientists disagree on whether to call viruses micro-organisms. Let's

Yoghurt is made by milk that has been soured by bacteria

call them unusual micro-organisms.

Bacteria are used to ferment milk as part of the cheese making process.