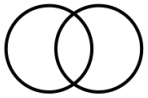
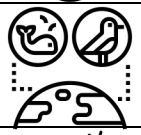
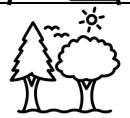
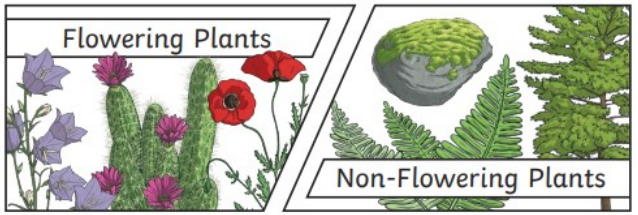
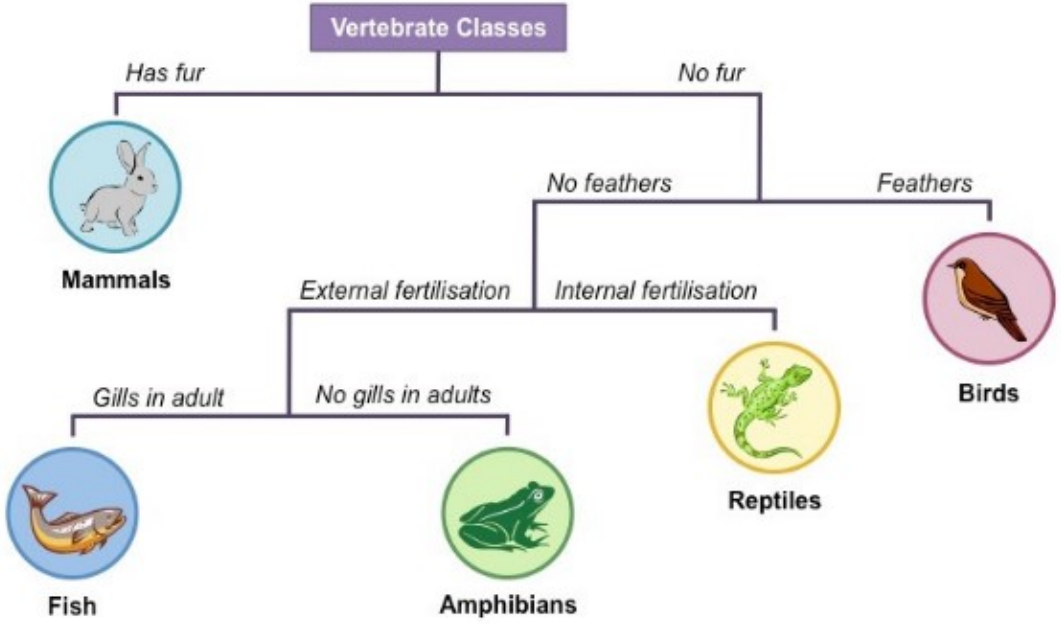
Living Things and Their Habitats

Key Vocabulary		
Classification		This is where plants or animals are placed into groups according to their similarities
Vertebrates		Animals with a backbone
Invertebrates		Animals without a backbone
Characteristics		The distinguishing features or qualities that are specific to a species.
Life Processes		The things living things do to stay alive
Habitat		The specific area or place in which particular animals or plants may live.
Environment		An environment contains many habitats and these include areas where there are both living and non-living things.
Endangered Species		A plant or animal where there are not many of their species left and scientists are concerned that the species may become extinct.
Sensitivity		The way living things react to changes in their environment.
Reproduction		The process through which young are produced.
Excretion		The process by which living things get rid of waste product.
Nutrition		Food which provides living things with energy to live and stay healthy.

Plants can be sorted into many different groups. For example:





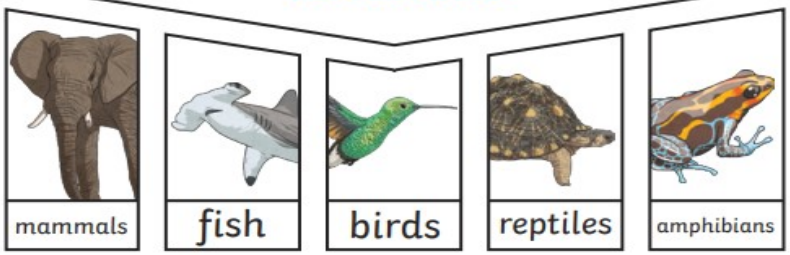
Life Processes

To stay alive and healthy, all living things need certain conditions that let them carry out the seven life processes:

Movement
Respiration
Sensitivity
Growth
Reproduction
Excretion
Nutrition

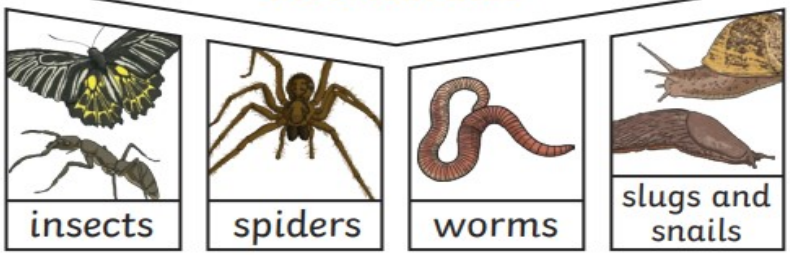
Animals can be grouped in lots of different ways based upon their **characteristics**.

vertebrates



Vertebrates can be separated into five broad groups.

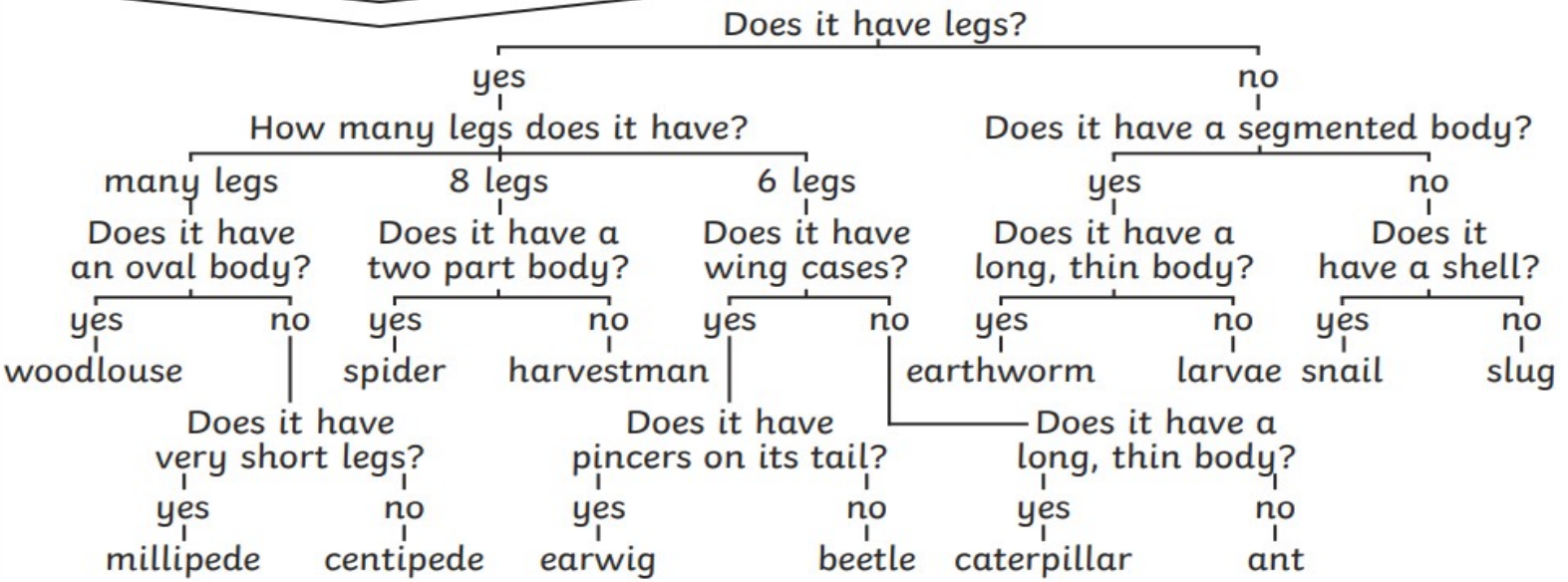
invertebrates



You could sort **invertebrates** you might see around school in different ways, such as in this example. The vast majority of living things on the planet are **invertebrates**.

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

Invertebrate Classification Key



Environment Changes

Changes to an environment can be natural or caused by humans. Changes to an environment can have positive as well as negative effects. Here are some examples of things that can change an environment.

Natural

- Earthquakes
- Storms
- Floods
- Droughts
- Wildfires
- The Seasons

Human-Made

- Deforestation
- Pollution
- Urbanisation
- The introduction of new animal or plant species to an environment
- Creating new nature reserves

Plants and animals rely on the environment to give them everything they need. Therefore, when habitats change, it can be very dangerous to the plants and animals that live there.