LIVING THINGS AND THEIR HABITATS

Key Vocabulary	
organisms	This is another word that can be used to mean 'living things'.
life processes	The things living things do to stay alive.
respiration	A process where plants and animals use oxygen gas from the air to help turn their food into energy.
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 products.
nutrition	The process of obtaining food to provide living things with energy to live and stay healthy.
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 .
extinct	When a species has no more members alive on the planet, it is extinct.

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.

earthquakes

- storms
- · floods · droughts
- · wildfires
- · the seasons

· deforestation

- · pollution
 - urbanisation
- · the introduction of new animal or plant species to an environment
- · creating new nature reserves

Life Processes To stay alive and healthy, all living things need certain conditions that let them carry out the seven

Growth Movement Reproduction Respiration Excretion Sensitivity Nutrition

life processes:



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.

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.					
specimen	A particular plant or animal that scientists study to find out about its species.					
characteristics	The distinguishing features or qualities that are specific to a species.					

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



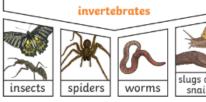
Animals can be grouped in lots of different ways based upon their characteristics.

vertebrates

Vertebrates can be separated into five broad groups.

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

classification key:



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.

Invertebrate Classification Key

Does it have legs?									
yes				no					
How many legs does it have?				Does it have a segmented body?					
many legs	8 legs	6 le	egs	yes		no			
Does it have	Does it have			Does it have		Does it			
an oval body? two part		body? wing cases?		long, thin body?		have a shell?			
yes no	yes	no yes	no	yes	no	yes	no		
woodlouse	spider harv	estman	eart	hworm l	arvae s	snail s	slug		
Does it have Does it have L					ave a				
very short l	.egs? p	incers on its	tail?	long, thin	body?				
yes	no y	es	no	yes	no				
millipede ce	entipede ear	wig	beetle c	aterpillar	ant				

