

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**.

- Natural*
- earthquakes
 - storms
 - floods
 - droughts
 - wildfires
 - the seasons

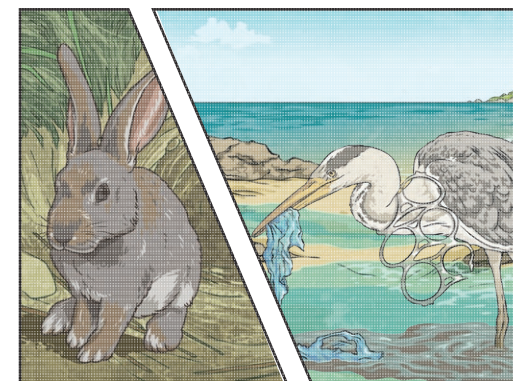
- Human-Made*
- deforestation
 - pollution
 - urbanisation
 - the introduction of new animal or plant species to an **environment**
 - creating new nature reserves

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.

Life Processes

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

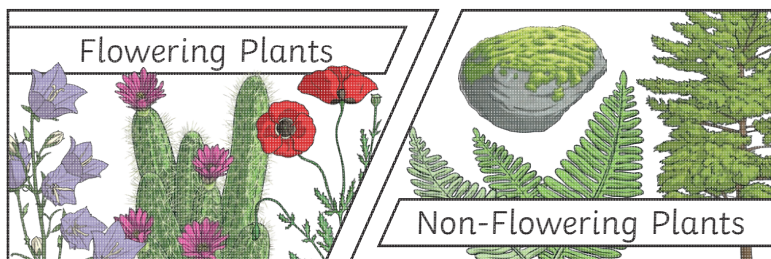
- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Movement | Growth |
| Respiration | Reproduction |
| Sensitivity | Excretion |
| | Nutrition |



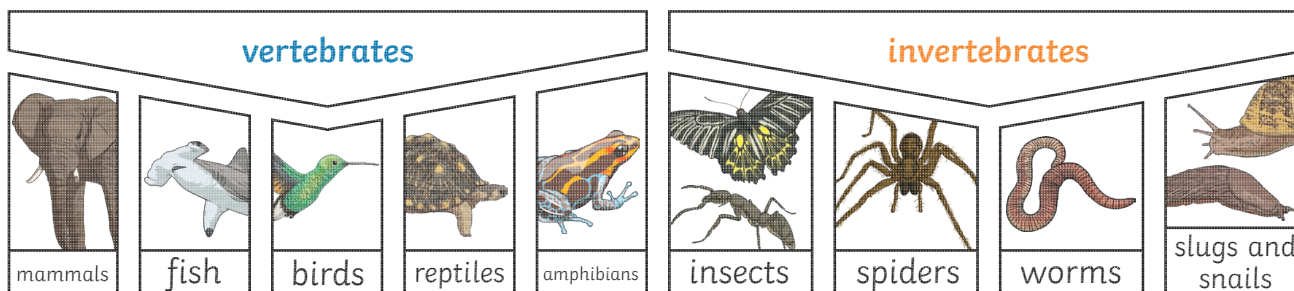
Key Vocabulary

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 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 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

