

Year 4: How can animals be classified in our local and wider environment?

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Interesting Books	Sticky Knowledge about Classification of animals	
producer	A food chain always starts with a producer , an organism that makes food. This is usually a green plant, because plants can make their own food by photosynthesis		☐ The largest vertebrate is the blue whale, which can grow to 25m long and weighs 140,000kg.	
predator	A predator is an animal that hunts and eats other animals.			
prey	The prey is the animal that gets eaten by the predator.	A Scientist just like me  Ryan Coombes	☐ The smallest vertebrate is thought to be a tiny frog called the Paedophryne amauensis. It only grows to about 8mm in length.	
food chain	A series of organisms each dependent on the next as a source of food.		☐ Vertebrates tend to be much more intelligent than invertebrates.	
vertebrate	Animals with a backbone.		Important facts to know by the end of the classification of animals topic: • Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. • Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living thing in the local and wider environment. • Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. • Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.	☐ Vertebrate animals can be either warm or cold-blooded. A cold-blooded animal cannot maintain a constant body temperature. The temperature of their body is determined by the outside surroundings.
invertebrate	Animals without a backbone.			
classification	This is where plants or animals are placed into groups according to their similarities.			
characteristics	Similarities in animals and plants that are used to sort them into groups.	Important facts to know by the end of the classification of animals topic: • Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. • Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living thing in the local and wider environment. • Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. • Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.	☐ An invertebrate is an animal that does not have a backbone. 97% of all animal species are invertebrates.	
environmental change	A change to a habitat caused by humans or nature which can be dangerous to the plants and animals that live there.		☐ Frogs can breathe through their skin.	
organism	Another word that is used to mean 'living things'.		☐ There are a wide variety of interesting ocean animals that are invertebrates. These include sponges, corals, jellyfish, anemones, and starfish.	
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.			

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