

The Knowledge

Supporting the National Curriculum



Knowing More Remembering More Learning More

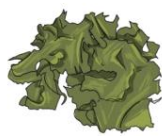
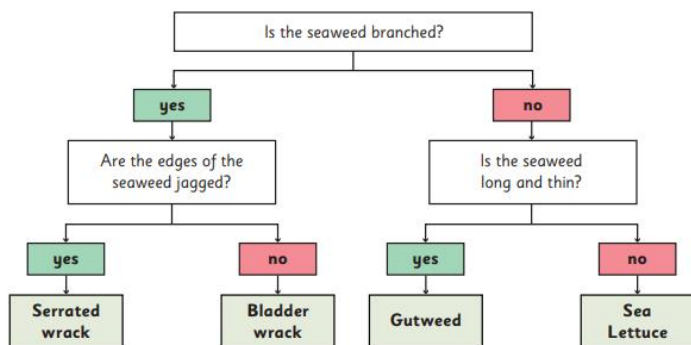
Living Things and Their Habitats

 **ARDLEIGH GREEN**
JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 6
Science

Classification Keys

Classification keys usually have **statements** or **questions** that describe some of the **features** or **characteristics**. You have to answer either **yes** or **no**. Your answer will then take you to another question or statement OR the type of living thing. This one looks at the physical appearance of seaweed.



Seaweed A is Seaweed B is Seaweed C is Seaweed D is

Bladder wrack Gutweed Sea Lettuce Serrated wrack

Key People

Carl Linnaeus – He simplified the naming of living things in 1735. Names of living things were often very long so he gave them a two part (binomial) name. It was a mixture of genus and species (and in Latin). E.g Human was Homo Sapien and Wolf was Canus Lupus. He also created a system of classification, which ranks living things into groups in order to name their species.



DOMAIN	Eukarya
KINGDOM	Animalia
PHYLUM	Chordata
CLASS	Mammalia
ORDER	Primates
FAMILY	Hominidae
GENUS	Homo
SPECIES	Homo sapiens

Grouping

Grouping Animals:

We can group animals into different groups based on their **characteristics** (fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds). We can also group animals based on their **diet** (omnivores, herbivores, carnivores). We can also group animals based on their **bone structure** (vertebrates and invertebrates).

Grouping Plants:

We can group plants based on how they **disperse** their seeds (wind, explosion, animals, water). We can group plants on whether they grow a **flower** (flowering or non-flowering).

Grouping Microorganisms:

Microorganisms are very small living things. We can classify microorganisms into five groups (viruses, bacteria, fungi, algae, protozoa).

Key Vocabulary

Classification – The arrangement of living things in groups according to observed similarities.

Microorganism – a tiny microscopic organism such as bacteria, virus or fungus.

Habitat – a place where living organisms live.

Living organism – Something that can move, use energy or reproduce.

Species – The smallest class of organisms.

Microscopic – A microscopic organism is too small to see with the naked eye.

Kingdom – A category grouping together all forms of life, having certain characteristics in common.

Linnaean system – A diverse kingdom which includes mushrooms and brewer's yeast.

Ecosystem – A group of living organisms that live and interact with each other in a specific environment.

Cell – The smallest structural and functional unit of an organism.

Test Yourself

What is meant by the term 'classification'?

How do scientists classify living things?

What are the characteristics of things that are classified as 'living'?

What are the 'kingdoms' that scientists refer to?

How can we classify living things using the Linnaean system?

What are the characteristics of the different types of microorganisms?

What is a living organism?