

Science- Animals and their Habitats- Year 4 Spring Term

Prior Learning:

A variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals. Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats.

Key Vocabulary

Classification	The process of sorting something into groups.
Classification Keys	A key is a set of questions about the characteristics of living things.
Environment	A place where something lives.
Habitat	The natural home of an animal.
Human Impact	The effects humans have on the environment.
Invertebrate	An animal without a backbone.
Skeleton	An internal or external framework of bone.
Vertebrate	An animal with a backbone.

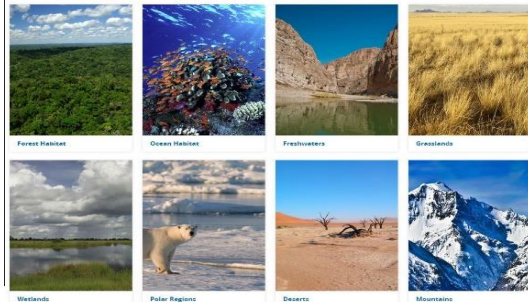


Steve Backshall

A famous TV presenter whose passion is the discovery of new places and new species.

Habitats:

A habitat is the home of an animal or a plant. Almost every place on Earth—from the hottest desert to the coldest ice pack—is a habitat for some kinds of animals and plants.



Vertebrates:

A vertebrate is an animal with a backbone. (An invertebrate is an animal without a backbone.) Fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals, including humans, are all vertebrates.

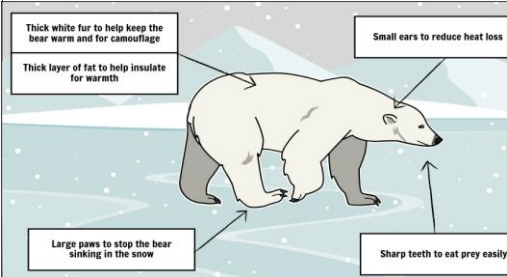
Vertebrates

Vertebrates are animals with a backbone

	Mammals	Reptiles	Fish	Birds	Amphibians
Type of birth	give birth	lay eggs	lay eggs	lay eggs	lay eggs
Skin/ body covering	hair or fur	dry Scales	wet scales	feathers	moist skin
Breathing	breathe by lungs	breathe by lungs	breathe by gills	breathe by lungs	young : breathe by gills adult : have lungs
Body temperature	warm-blooded	cold-blooded	cold-blooded	warm-blooded	cold-blooded
Live on land or in water	live everywhere	live in different environments	live in water	live everywhere as most birds can fly	live in water and on land

Adaptation:

Over long periods of time animals adapt to fit their habitat. This means that they develop traits that help them to survive where they live. Animals adapt so that they can stay safe, travel well, and find food in their habitat.



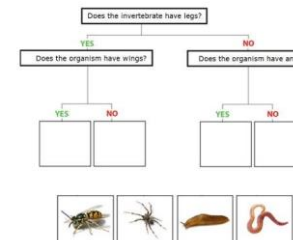
Invertebrates:

An invertebrate is an animal without a backbone. (An animal with a backbone is called a [vertebrate](#).) Invertebrates live in every part of the world. In fact, most of the animals on Earth are invertebrates.



Classification Keys:

A key is a set of questions about the characteristics of living things. You can use a key to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs to by answering the questions.



Key Learning

Living things can be grouped (classified) in different ways according to their features.

Classification keys can be used to identify and name living things.

Living things live in a habitat which provides an environment to which they are suited.

Humans can cause the environment to change in both good and bad ways.

There are five different classes of vertebrates (mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles).

Can I answer?

- What is a vertebrate?
- What is an invertebrate?
- What are the 5 types of vertebrate?
- What are the features of a mammal?
- How can living animals be grouped?