Year 5 Science Knowledge Organiser

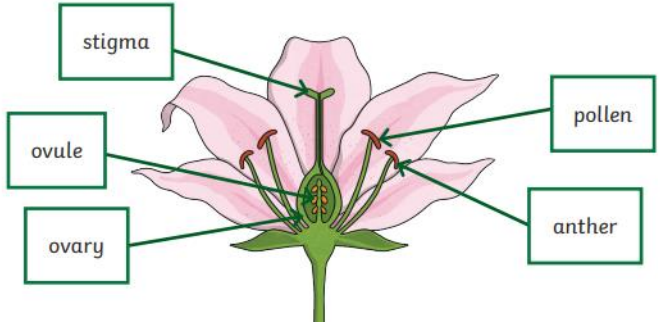
Living Things and Their Habitats



Key vocabulary	
Asexual reproduction	Occurs when only one parent produces offspring that are nearly identical to the parent.
fertilisation	The process of the male and female sex cells joining together.
life cycle	The series of changes a living thing goes through from its beginning to its end.
marsupial	A mammal that gives birth to partly developed young, which then mature in the mother's pouch.
metamorphosis	The process of a living thing completely changing in appearance from one stage of life to the next.
monotreme	A mammal that lays eggs to reproduce.
naturalist	Someone who is interested in and studies nature and natural history.
offspring	The young of a living organism.
placental	A type of mammal that gives birth to live young that have fully developed inside the body.

Key knowledge

Sexual reproduction in plants usually happens when the pollen from the anther of one flower reaches the stigma of another flower. It then travels to the ovary and joins with an ovule, forming a seed that can grow into a new plant. Asexual reproduction in plants happens when a parent produces new plants that are almost identical to itself, without the need for fertilisation. This can occur through bulbs, tubers or runners.



Mammals: Most mammals (including humans) are placental, meaning the foetus develops inside the body until it is ready to be born. However, some mammals are monotremes, which lay eggs, and others are marsupials, which carry their babies in a pouch after birth.

Birds and Reptiles: Birds and most reptiles hatch from eggs.

Amphibians and Insects: Amphibians and insects hatch from eggs and often go through metamorphosis, changing in appearance as they grow into adults.

