

What is a habitat?

A habitat is a place where living things, such as animals and plants, can find all of the things they need to survive. This includes food, water, air, space to move and grow and some shelter.

Some habitats are large, like the ocean, and some are very small, such as under a log.

Some habitats in our local area include parks including Ribblesdale Park, Beacon Fell and the River Ribble. Other habitats include the coast and the forest.



Ocean habitat



Coastal habitat



Antarctic habitat



Woodland habitat



Rainforest habitat

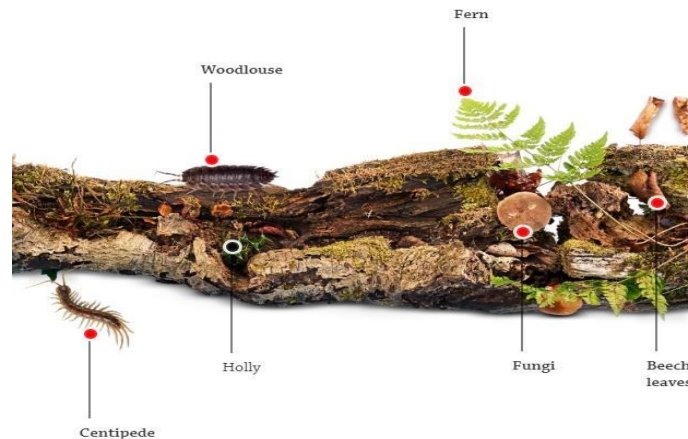
What is a microhabitat?

Microhabitats are very small habitats where minibeasts may live.

Examples of microhabitats include under stones, in grass, under fallen leaves and in a bug hotel (in a garden or quiet area).

Minibeasts that can be found there include worms, snails, ants, centipedes, millipedes, and butterflies and they help to keep the microhabitat healthy. They help the environments in different ways.

Minibeasts are able to survive in their habitats because they can find the things they need to survive there, such as food, shelter and water. For example, caterpillars can survive on leaves as they give them food.



A log of rotting wood on a forest floor appears to be dead, but it provides damp shelter and food for many plants and animals.

Key Vocab

Habitat	the home of an animal or a plant
Micro habitat	A small part of the environment that supports a habitat, such as a fallen log in a forest
Carnivore	An animal that eats meat
Herbivore	An animal that only eats plants
Omnivore	An animal that eats all kinds of foods, including both meat and plants
Food chain	The order in which living things depend on each other for food
Characteristics	A special quality or appearance that makes an individual or a group different from others
Adaptation	A special skill which helps an animal to survive and do everything it needs to do.
Source	Where something comes from

Sources of Food

Some animals get their food from eating other **animals**.



These animals are called **carnivores**



Some animals get their food from **eating plants**.



These animals are called **herbivores**



Some animals get their food from **eating plants and animals**.



These animals are called **omnivores**



Living or not

Living

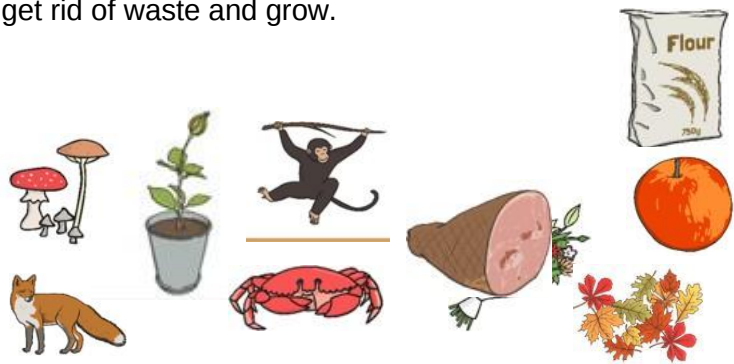
Living things have life processes. To survive, they need to have food, water and air. Living things are able to move, reproduce, get rid of waste and grow.

Dead

Dead things are things that were once alive but they are not any more. They do not grow, reproduce, get rid of waste or move any more.

Never been Alive

Things that have never been alive do not grow, reproduce, get rid of waste or move on their own. They have never done these things.



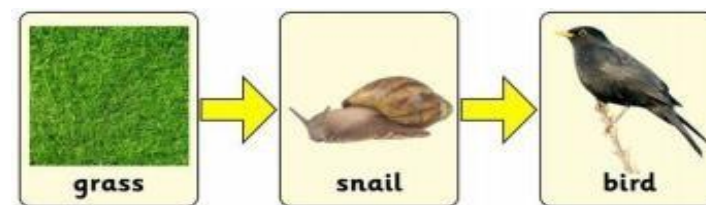
Food Chains

Living things are linked through their food. For example, a fox, a rabbit and a plant are linked because the rabbit eats the plant and the fox eats the rabbit. These links are called **food chains**. Along the food chain, **energy** is passed from one living thing to another.

The term **food chain** describes the order in which organisms, or living things, depend on each other for food.

A **food chain** shows how each living thing gets **food**, and how nutrients and energy are passed from creature to creature. **Food chains** begin with plant-life, and end with animal-life. Some animals eat plants, some animals eat other animals

The arrows in a food chain mean 'is eaten by'.



Characteristics of all living things

Some things are living, some things are dead and some things have never been alive.

All living things do certain things to stay alive. These are called life processes.

Animals, including humans, do these things.



Plants do too, although they do them in different ways.



All living things: breathe, feed, reproduce, get rid of waste and grow