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**Big Ideas/Substantive Concepts**

Living things

Vertebrates and Invertebrates

Plants

Classification Keys

Environmental changes

Pupils should be taught to:

* 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 things in their local and wider environment
* Recognise that environment can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things

Questions

What are the characteristics of living things?

What animals are vertebrates?

What animals are invertebrates?

What groups are plants classified in?

What is classification? How do I use a key?

What happens if the environment in a habitat changes?

**Key Vocabulary**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Tier 2** | **Tier 3** |
| classification | vertebrate |
| environment | invertebrate |
| interdependence | biotic |
| interact | ecosystem |
| beneficial | species |
| hierarchy | niche |
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Year 4: Living Things and their habitats

**Resources:** [CUSP curriculum](https://www.unity-curriculum.co.uk/history/history-ks2/) and [Curriculum vision](https://www.curriculumvisions.com/indexHistory.html) resources for online non-fiction texts

Making connections to prior learning

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| **Year 3:**  Rocks  Animals, including humans  Plants |

Working Scientifically

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ask relevant questions | Set up simple, practical enquiries and comparative fair tests | Make accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, eg. thermometers & data loggers | Gather, record, classify and present data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions. |
| Record findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, bar charts and tables | Report on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions | Use results to draw simple conclusions and suggest improvements, new questions and predictions for setting up further tests | Identify differences, similarities or changes related to simple, scientific ideas and processes |

**Outdoor Learning Opportunities**

Alfresco Learning: Year 4: “Living things and their habitats”

Fairhaven Lake: “Living things and their habitat”/“Discovering Birds”/“Investigating Minibeasts”