



St Leo's and Southmead
Catholic Nursery and Primary
School

Year
Six

Science Knowledge Organiser

Spring
Term

Amazing Activities
Create an interactive
classification display
and show other classes
how to use it.

Curriculum Links

Art - Improve mastery of drawing using pencils

Living things and their habitats

Key Vocabulary

Classification - a system used by scientists to describe organisms, or living things

Opinion - What somebody thinks

Similarities - things which are similar

Differences - things that are not the same

Refute - prove a statement to be wrong

Micro-organism - A microscopic organism, especially a bacterium, virus, or fungus

Taxonomy - The part of science focused on classification

Key Concepts

Carl Linnaeus is famous for his work in Taxonomy: the science of identifying, naming and classifying organisms.

Living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants & animals

These broad groups can then be further subdivided.

Skills

- planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions including recognising and controlling variables where necessary
- recording results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams & labels, & classification keys
- reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations
- identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments
- reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations

Figure 1: A general classification for the animal kingdom

KINGDOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kingdom is the highest level on the biological classification scale. All living creatures are classed as part of the Animalia Kingdom.
PHYLUM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phylum splits animals by major characteristics. Fish (and other vertebrates) are in the Chordata Phylum.
CLASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish are divided into Chondrichthyes (cartilaginous fish) and Osteichthyes (bony fish).
ORDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Order further differentiates by physical characteristics.
FAMILY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family groups members by further physical characteristics. There are over 50 members of the Gadidae ("cod") family, for example, which share features such as all having three dorsal fins.
GENUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genus further differentiates members within a family. Within the Gadidae family, the four members of the Gadus genus are Pacific cod, Atlantic cod, Greenland cod, and Alaska pollock.
SPECIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species is the final level and pinpoints the exact creature. For example, Pacific cod's species name is Gadus macrocephalus.

Adapted from: britishseafishing.co.uk/fish-species-classification

Features to distinguish between animals	Features to distinguish between plants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invertebrate or vertebrate Mammal/reptile/fish/amphibian/bird Colour Number of legs Number of body segments Distinguishing features Habitat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flowering or non-flowering Grass/cereal/garden shrub/deciduous/algae/conifer/fern Colour Height Number of flowers Fruit bearing or not Distinguishing features Usual location

