

- micro-organisms, plants, and animals.
- Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.
- Use and develop keys and other information records to identify, classify and describe living things.

## What I already know:

In Unit 3 all children learned about:

- parts of a plant and their functions.
- how living things can be grouped in different ways.
- use classification keys to group animals.

Earlier this year, the children learnt about the differences in lifecycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect, and a bird.

Word	Meaning
Organism	A living thing such as an animal or a plant.
Reproduction	Reproduction is the process where living things create young or offspring either sexually or asexually.
Sexual Reproduction	Sexual reproduction requires two parents to make one offspring. The offspring is genetically different from both parents (some plants and all animals).
Vertebrate	An animal with a spine.
Invertebrate	An animal without a spine.
Classification	Method of arranging organisms into groups.
Classification key	A way of separating organisms into groups or types.
Microorganisms	Tiny organisms such as bacteria, viruses, and fungi.
Bacteria	Simple, tiny, invisible (to the naked eye) microorganisms.
Viruses	Tiny microorganisms that need a host.
Fungi	A group of organisms including mushrooms, mould and yeast.

## **Characteristics of All Living Things**

These are the characteristics that all living things have:











All living things need nutrition. - Food is eaten to provide energy to live. - Green plants make their own food using sunlight.







## **Groups of Organisms:**

- Vertebrates can be grouped as mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, and reptiles.
- Plants can be grouped as flowering and non-flowering. Flowering plants produce flowers and fruits. Non-flowering plants do not.
- Scientists group organisms to organise animals and plants based on their features.
- Grouping organisms can help us understand how organisms are related to each other.

## **Classification Keys**

Classification keys are used to classify animals.

- Classification keys can be used to identify different unknown animals based on their features, such as number of legs, having fur or scales.
- A classification key is made up of several questions with yes or no answers.
- These questions can then lead to further questions and answers until the identity of the animal is determined.

