

**What should I already know?**

Similarities and differences between common, everyday objects (EYFS)

Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals (Y1)

Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways (Y4)

Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment (Y4)

Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals (Y5)

**What will I know by the end of the unit?**

Animals can be put into one of two groups	Vertebrates or invertebrates
Key Features to distinguish between animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• invertebrate or vertebrate</li> <li>• mammal/reptile/fish/amphibian/bird</li> <li>• colour</li> <li>• length</li> <li>• number of legs</li> <li>• number of body segments</li> <li>• distinguishing features</li> <li>• habitat</li> </ul>
Key Features to distinguish between plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• flowering or non-flowering</li> <li>• grass/cereal/garden shrub/deciduous/algae/ coniferous/fern</li> <li>• colour</li> <li>• height</li> <li>• number of flowers</li> <li>• fruit bearing or not</li> <li>• distinguishing features</li> <li>• usual location</li> </ul>
Key features of microorganisms	<p>Include algae, fungi, protozoa, bacteria and viruses</p> <p>They are the smallest organisms on Earth</p> <p>They perform photosynthesis, break down waste and infect other organisms</p>

**Vocabulary**

taxonomy	the part of science focused on classification
classification	grouping something using its features
distinguish	recognise a difference between 2 things
micro-organism	an organism that is microscopic and too small for the human eye to see
similarities	a similar feature or characteristic
differences	a point or way in which people or things are dissimilar
observable	able to be noticed easily
characteristics	a feature or quality belonging typically to a person, place, or thing and serving to identify them
flowering	produces flowers during the lifecycle
non-flowering	produces no flowers, therefore lacking the flowering stage in its lifecycle
dissimilar	where something is not the same
Carl Linnaeus	a scientist who created a system of naming plants and animal based on similarities in obvious physical traits