



LIVING THINGS AND THEIR HABITATS

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



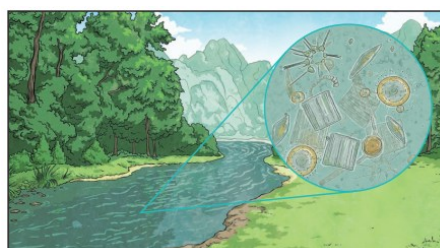
Key Vocabulary

Characteristics	Special qualities or appearances that make an individual or group of things different to others.
Classify	To sort things into different groups.
Taxonomist	A scientist who classifies different living things into categories.
Key	A series of questions about the characteristics of living things. It is used to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs to by answering 'yes' or 'no' questions.
Bacteria	A single-celled microorganism.
Microorganism	An organism that can only be seen using a microscope. E.g. bacteria, mould and yeast.
Microscope	A piece of equipment that is used to view very tiny (microscopic) things by magnifying their appearance.

What are microorganisms?

Microorganisms are viruses, bacteria, moulds and yeast. Some animals (dust mites) and plants (phytoplankton) are also microorganisms.

Microorganisms are very tiny living things that can only be seen using **microscope**. They can be found in and on our bodies, in the air, in water and on objects around us.



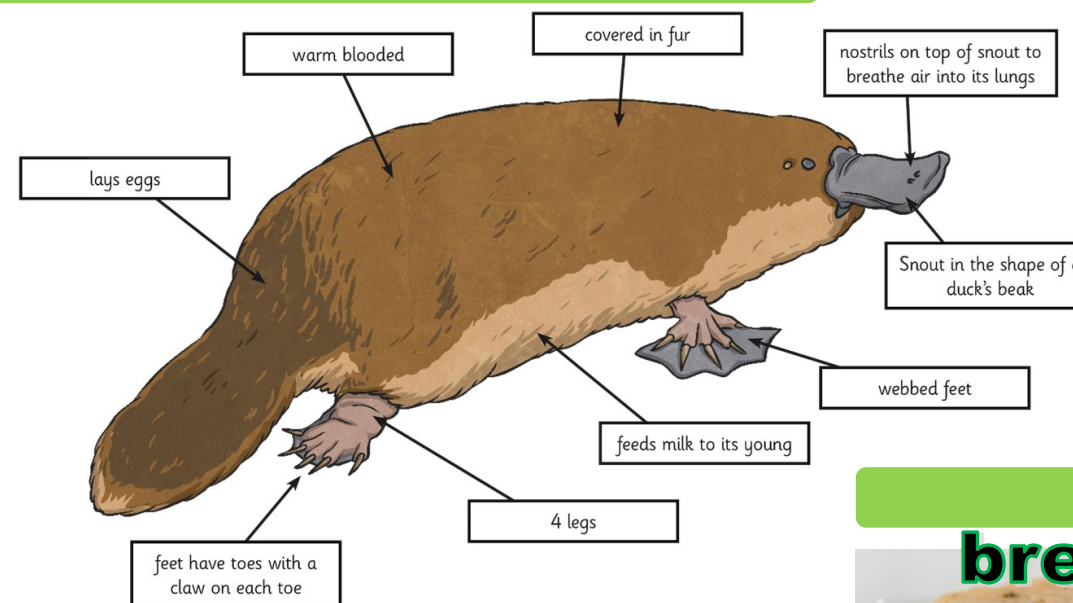
What is classification?

In 1735, Swedish Scientist Carl Linnaeus first published a system for **classifying** all living things. An adapted version of this system is still used today: The Linnaeus System.

Living things can be **classified** by these eight levels. The number of living things in each level gets smaller until the one animal is left in its species level. This is how a dog would be classified.



How is the platypus classified?

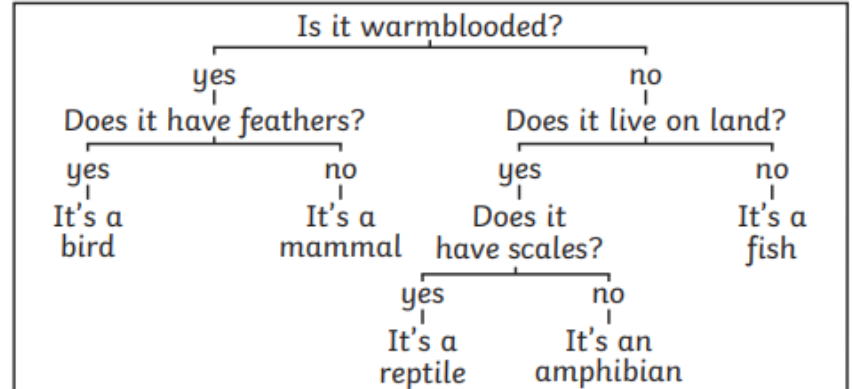


Some microorganisms (or microbes) are helpful whilst others are harmful.

Helpful Microbes	Harmful Microbes
Bacteria – cheese	Bacteria – salmonella is a bacterium that can lead to food poisoning
Yeast – wine	Virus – chicken pox and flu are examples of viral diseases
Bacteria – yoghurt	Fungi – athlete's foot
Yeast – bread dough	Bacteria – plaque
Penicillium fungi - antibiotics	Fungi - mould



Scientists, called Taxonomists, sort and group living things according to their similarities and differences.



What do you think?



What is mould?

bread to mould



It's soft, furry-looking and is usually green, blue, grey or black in colour.

It is caused by damp conditions. Areas with lots of moisture, such as around windows.

Mould can form on patches on surfaces such as walls, clothing or on old food.

Some people are allergic to mould. Symptoms can include wheezing and itchy eyes.

Keeping areas dry and well ventilated can help to prevent mould.

Mould on soft food with a high water content, like berries, can spread quickly.

When mould spores land on food, they can multiply quickly. They can grow inside of food as well as on the outside.

