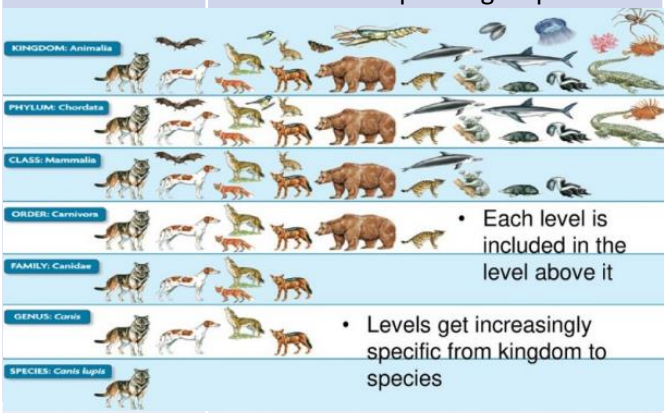
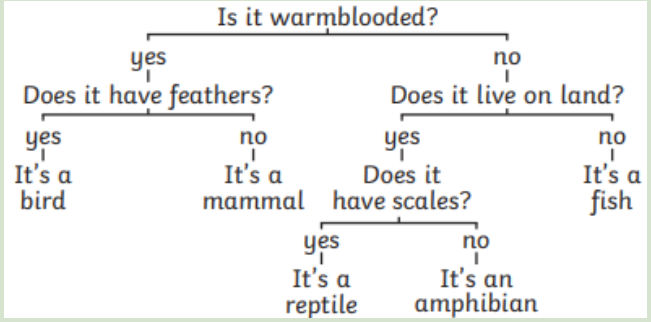
Eversley Primary School– Knowledge Organiser

Science	Living Things and Their Habitats	Year 6	Spring 2

Key Knowledge

Linnaean system	The Linnaean system, named after Carl Linnaeus, has different levels where the number of living things in each group gets smaller and smaller, until there is one type of animal in the species group.
	
Micro-organisms	Micro-organisms are very tiny living thing which you can only see using a microscope. They are found in our bodies, air, water and objects. Examples include dust mites, bacteria and fungi, such as mould. Some microorganisms can be helpful in certain situations. While others can be harmful, and their spread needs to be controlled or contained.
Classification key	Living things can be grouped according to different criteria: where they live, what type of organism they are, what features they have. Classification key is a tool used to group living things to help us identify them using recognisable characteristics.

Diagrams



Statutory Requirements

- Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals
- Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics

Key Vocabulary

Taxonomy	The part of science which focuses on classification.
Distinguish	Recognise a difference.
Characteristics	Qualities or features that make an individual or group of things different to others.
Classification key	A system which groups living things according to their characteristics.
Taxonomist	A scientist who sort and group living things according to their similarities and differences.
Organism	A living thing.
Species	A group of plants or animals that have the same main characteristics and can reproduce to produce fertile offspring.

Possible Experiences

- Sort vertebrates and invertebrate animals into groups, describing their key features. Use a classification key to identify which group of vertebrates animals belong to and then create your own.
- Explore the different ways in which invertebrates can be classified (e.g. arachnids, insects, molluscs).
- Sort scenarios where microorganisms might be helpful (e.g. yeast in baking) or harmful (e.g. infectious diseases).
- Describe some organisms that may be difficult to classify (e.g. Platypus) and explain why.
- Research unfamiliar organisms from a broad range of habitats and decide whether they belong in the classification system.
- Research the work of Carl Linnaeus.