

## Key Vocabulary

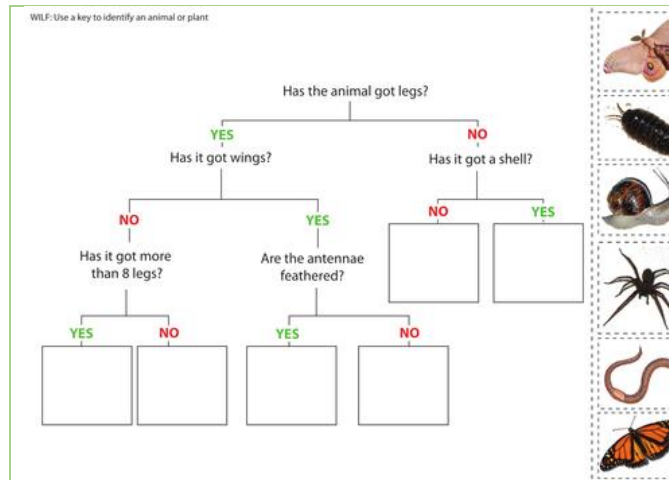
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|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Characteristics</b>    | A feature or quality belonging typically to a person, place, or thing and serving to identify them.  |
| <b>Species</b>            | A group of animals, plants or other living things that all share common characteristics and that are all classified as alike in some manner.       |
| <b>Classification key</b> | A set of questions about the characteristics of living things. You can use the key to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs to. |
| <b>Vertebrate</b>         | A vertebrate animal is one that has a backbone.  |
| <b>Invertebrate</b>       | An invertebrate animal does not have a backbone and 97% of creatures belong to this group.   |
| <b>Minibeast</b>          | A small animal that does not have a backbone.  |
| <b>Amphibians</b>         | Small vertebrates that need water or a moist environment to survive.   |
| <b>Reptiles</b>           | Air-breathing vertebrates covered in special skin made up of scales, bony plates, or a combination of both.  |
| <b>Mammals</b>            | An animal that breathes air, has a backbone, and grows hair at some point during its life.   |

## Are all animals the same?

The children will explore, use and create classification keys to classify and group animals and plants in different ways.

## Background Knowledge

In Year two the children have explored and compared the differences between things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive. Children will also have general knowledge of animals and what they look like.



## Key Facts

- There are many different groups that you can group animals into. Vertebrate animals could be grouped into fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Invertebrate animals could be grouped into snails and slugs, worms, spiders, and insects.
- A classification key is a key that uses a series of questions to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs to.
- Nature reserves, ecologically planned parks and garden ponds have positive effects on the environment and living things' habitats.
- Population and development, litter and deforestation have a negative impact on the environment and living things' habitats.
- An invertebrate is an animal that does not have a backbone. 97% of all animal species are invertebrates.
- Plants can be grouped into categories such as flowering plants and non-flowering plants (such as fern and mosses).

