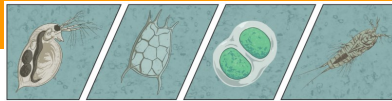




Year 6 - Spring - Science Knowledge Organiser

What I already know...

- That the animal kingdom can be divided into two groups: vertebrates (animals with a backbone) and invertebrates (animals without a backbone).
- That plants can be classified into five groups.
- How to use a simple classification key.



What I will learn...

- There are 5 kingdoms (animal, plant, fungi, monera & protist)
- Vertebrates are animals with a backbone. Each group of vertebrates (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish) have specific similarities.
- Invertebrates are animals with no backbone. Each group of invertebrates (sponges, arachnids, molluscs, worms, jellyfish) have specific similarities.
- Carl Linnaeus is a pioneer of classification who developed a system of classifying animals and plants.
- Organisms are individual living things.
- Micro-organisms are organisms too small to be seen with the eye.
- Mushrooms are a type of fungus.
- Arachnids are animals that have 8 legs and a body formed in two parts.
- Molluscs are animals with a soft body with no backbone and are mainly covered by a shell.
- Crustaceans are animals that has several pairs of legs and a body made up of sections covered in an exoskeleton.

Key Vocabulary

organism	An individual living thing.
micro-organism	An organism too small to be seen with the eye.
bacteria	A single-cell micro-organism
species	A group of animals that can reproduce or produce fertile offspring.
exoskeleton	An exoskeleton is a hard covering that supports and protects the bodies of some types of animals. The word exoskeleton means “outside skeleton.”
classification	Ways of naming and grouping living things by their similarities and differences.
characteristics	Special qualities or appearances that make an individual or group of things different to others.
taxonomist	A scientist who classifies different living things into categories.
key	A key is a series of questions about the characteristics of living things. A key is used to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs to by answering ‘yes’ or ‘no’ questions.



Making a difference at The Merton

In this topic, we will expand on our prior learning of vertebrates and invertebrates and explore the five kingdoms of living things. We will learn how scientists have developed a way to divide all living things and explore the kingdoms not yet encountered, such as fungi, monera and protist. Throughout our learning, we will look at the similarities and differences that exist between living organisms and how we can organise them into groups using classification systems. We will learn about how Carl Linnaeus developed a classification system which is still in use today and consider how he has made a difference to our understanding of the world in which we live.

How to be a scientist

To help the children to develop as scientists, this term, they will be learning the skills required to make close observations which will enable them to identify patterns found in nature. The children will also learn how to develop complex classification keys which will be used to describe the living things found at The Merton.