

Topic: Living things and their habitats

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Key knowledge and learning for this topic:

What pupils need to know or do to be secure

Key Knowledge:

- Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive
- Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other
- Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro- habitats
- Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food

Key Learning:

All objects are either living, dead or have never been alive. Living things are plants (including seeds) and animals. Dead things include dead animals and plants and parts of plants and animals that are no longer attached e.g. leaves and twigs, shells, fur, hair and feathers (This is a simplification, but appropriate for Year 2 children.)

An object made of wood is classed as dead. Objects made of rock, metal and plastic have never been alive (again ignoring that plastics are made of fossil fuels).

Animals and plants live in a habitat to which they are suited, which means that animals have suitable features that help them move and find food and plants have suitable features that help them to grow well. The habitat provides the basic needs of the animals and plants – shelter, food and water.

Within a habitat there are different micro-habitats e.g. in a woodland – in the leaf litter, on the bark of trees, on the leaves. These micro-habitats have different conditions e.g. light or dark, damp or dry. These conditions affect which plants and animals live there. The plants and animals in a habitat depend on each other for food and shelter etc. The way that animals obtain their food from plants and other animals can be shown in a food chain.

Key Vocabulary:

Living, alive, ocean, dead, healthy, rainforest, never alive, logs, leaf, litter, conditions, habitats, stony path, hot/warm/cold, micro-habitats, under bushes, dry/damp/wet, food, shelter, bright/shade/dark, food chain, seashore, sun-grass-cow-human, woodland

Prior learning in previous year groups:	Where is our learning going?
	Future objectives in later year groups and key stages.
Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. (Y1 - Plants) Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees. (Y1 - Plants) Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. (Y1 - Animals including humans) Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. (Y1 - Animals including humans) Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, including pets). (Y1 – Animals, including humans)	Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. (Y4 - Living things and their habitats) Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. (Y4 - Living things and their habitats) Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. (Y4 - Living things and their habitats) Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey. (Y4 - Animals, including humans)
Observe changes across the four seasons. (Y1 - Seasonal changes)	



Application and Synthesis

Applying knowledge in familiar and new contexts, including a range of enquires

Activities

- Explore the outside environment regularly to find objects that are living, dead and have never lived.
- Classify objects found in the local environment.
- Observe animals and plants carefully, drawing and labelling diagrams.
- Create simple food chains for a familiar local habitat from first-hand observation and research.
- Create simple food chains from information given e.g. in picture books (Gruffalo etc.).

- Can sort into living, dead and never lived
- Can give key features that mean the animal or plant is suited toits micro-habitat
- Using a food chain can explain what animals eat
- Can explain in simple terms why an animal or plant is suited to a habitat e.g. the caterpillar cannot live under the soil like a worm as it needs fresh leaves to eat; the seaweed we found on the beach cannot live in our pond because it is not salty

Possible evidence to assess knowledge:	Common misconceptions:
Can find a range of items outside that are living, dead and never lived	Some children may think:
Can name a range of animals and plants that live in a habitat and micro- habitats that they have	an animal's habitat is like its 'home'
studied	plants and seeds are not alive as they
Can talk about how the features of these animals and plants make them suitable to the habitat	cannot be seen to move
Can talk about what the animals eat in a habitat and how the plants provide shelter for them	fire is living
Can construct a food chain that starts with a plant and has the arrows pointing in the correct	arrows in a food chain mean 'eats.
direction	



Topic: Plants



Key knowledge and learning for this topic:

What pupils need to know or do to be secure

Key Knowledge:

Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants.

Find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.

Key Learning and Knowledge:

Plants may grow from either seeds or bulbs. These then germinate and grow into seedlings which then continue to grow into mature plants. These mature plants may have flowers which then develop into seeds, berries, fruits etc. Seeds and bulbs need to be planted outside at particular times of year and they will germinate and grow at different rates. Some plants are better suited to growing in full sun and some grow better in partial or full shade. Plants also need different amounts of water and space to grow well and stay healthy.

Key Vocabulary:

As for Year 1 plus water, light, suitable temperature, grow, healthy, germination, reproduction

Prior learning in previous year groups:	Where is our learning going?
	Future objectives in later year groups and key stages.
Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden	Identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering
plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. (Y1 - Plants)	plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers. (Y3 - Plants)
Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of	Explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water,
common flowering plants, including trees. (Y1 - Plants)	nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant
	to plant. (Y3 - Plants)
	Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants. (Y3 -
	Plants)
	Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants,
	including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal. (Y3 - Plants)

Application and Synthesis

Applying knowledge in familiar and new contexts, including a range of enquires

Activities

- Make close observations of seeds and bulbs.
- Classify seeds and bulbs.
- Research and plan when and how to plant a range of seeds and bulbs.
- Look after the plants as they grow weeding, thinning, watering etc.
- Make close observations and measurements of their plants growing from seeds and bulbs.
- Make comparisons between plants as they grow.

- Can spot similarities and difference between bulbs and seeds
- Can nurture seeds and bulbs into mature plants identifying the different requirements of different plants

Possible evidence to assess knowledge:	Common misconceptions:
Can describe how plants that they have grown from seeds and	Some children may think:
bulbs have developed over time	plants are not alive as they cannot be seen to move
Can identify plants that grew well in different conditions	seeds are not alive
	all plants start out as seeds
	seeds and bulbs need sunlight to germinate.



Topic: Animals Including Humans



Key knowledge and learning for this topic:

What pupils need to know or do to be secure

Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults.

Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air).

Describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

Key Knowledge and Learning:

Animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults. In humans and some animals, these offspring will be young, such as babies or kittens, that grow into adults. In other animals, such as chickens or insects, there may be eggs laid that hatch to young or other stages which then grow to adults. The young of some animals do not look like their parents e.g. tadpoles.

All animals, including humans, have the basic needs of feeding, drinking and breathing that must be satisfied in order to survive. To grow into healthy adults, they also need the right amounts and types of food and exercise.

Good hygiene is also important in preventing infections and illnesses.

Key Vocabulary:

Offspring, grow, adults, nutrition, reproduce, survival, water, food, air, exercise, hygiene, egg-chicken-chicken, egg-caterpillar-pupa-butterfly, spawn-tadpole-frog, lamb-sheep, baby-toddler-child-teenager-adult

Prior learning in previous year groups:	Where is our learning going?
	Future objectives in later year groups and key stages.
Identify and name a variety of common animals	Identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of
that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.	nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what
(Y1 - Animals, including humans)	they eat. (Y3 - Animals, including humans)
Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of	Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a
the human body and say which part of the body	bird. (Y5 - Living things and their habitats)
is associated with each sense. (Y1 - Animals,	Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. (Y5- Living things
including humans)	and their habitats)
	Recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies
	function. (Y6 - Animals, including humans)

Application and Synthesis

Applying knowledge in familiar and new contexts, including a range of enquires

Activities

- Ask people questions and use secondary sources to find out about the life cycles of some animals.
- Observe animals growing over a period of time e.g. chicks, caterpillars, a baby.
- Ask questions of a parent about how they look after their baby.
- Ask pet owners questions about how they look after their pet.
- Explore the effect of exercise on their bodies.
- Classify food in a range of ways, including using the Eatwell Guide.
- Investigate washing hands, using glitter gel.

- Can describe, including using diagrams, the life cycle of some animals, including humans, and their growth to adults e.g. by creating a life cycle book for a younger child
- Can measure/observe how animals, including humans, grow.
- Show what they know about looking after a baby/animal by creating a parenting/pet owners' guide
- Explain how development and health might be affected by differing conditions and needs being met/not met



Possible evidence to assess knowledge:	Common misconceptions:	
Can describe how animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into	Some children may think:	
adults, using the appropriate names for the stages	an animal's habitat is like its 'home'	
Can state the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival	all animals that live in the sea are fish	
Can state the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of	respiration is breathing	
different types of food, and hygiene	breathing is respiration.	
Can name foods in each section of the Eatwell Guide		



Topic: Uses of Everyday Materials Scientist Charles Mackintosh



Key knowledge and learning for this topic:

What pupils need to know or do to be secure

Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses.

Find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

Key Learning:

All objects are made of one or more materials that are chosen specifically because they have suitable properties for the task. For example, a water bottle is made of plastic because it is transparent allowing you to see the drink inside and waterproof so that it holds the water. When choosing what to make an object from, the properties needed are compared with the properties of the possible materials, identified through simple tests and classifying activities. A material can be suitable for different purposes and an object can be made of different materials.

Objects made of some materials can be changed in shape by bending, stretching, squashing and twisting. For example, clay can be shaped by squashing, stretching, rolling, pressing etc. This can be a property of the material or depend on how the material has been processed e.g. thickness.

Key Vocabulary:

Wood, metal, plastic, glass, rock, brick paper, cardboard, squashing, bending, twisting, stretching, metal – coins, cars, table, wood – matches, floor, telegraph poles, spoons – plastic, wood, metal but not glass (Scientists – John Dunlop, Charles Macintosh, John McAdam)

Prior learning in previous year groups:	Where is our learning going?
	Future objectives in later year groups and key stages.
Distinguish between an object and the material from	Compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their
which it is made. (Y1 -Everyday materials)	appearance and simple physical properties. (Y3 - Rocks)
Identify and name a variety of everyday materials,	Notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces
including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock.	can act at a distance. (Y3 - Forces and magnets)
(Y1 - Everyday materials)	Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their
Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of	properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity
everyday materials. (Y1 - Everyday materials)	(electrical and thermal), and response to magnets. (Y5 - Properties and changes
Compare and group together a variety of everyday	of materials)
materials on the basis of their simple physical	Give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the
properties. (Y1 - Everyday materials)	particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic. (Y5 -
	Properties and changes of materials)

Application and Synthesis

Applying knowledge in familiar and new contexts, including a range of enquires

Activities

- Classify materials.
- Make suggestions about alternative materials for a purpose that are both suitable and unsuitable
- Test the properties of materials for particular uses e.g. compare the stretchiness of fabrics to select the most appropriate for Earthgirl's costume, test materials for waterproofness to select the most appropriate for a rain hat

- Can sort materials using a range of properties
- Can explain using the key properties why a material is suitable or not suitable for a purpose
- Can begin to choose an appropriate method for testing a material for a particular property
- Can use their test evidence to select appropriate material for a purpose e.g. Which material is the best for a rain hat?



Possible evidence to assess knowledge:	Common misconceptions:
Can name an object, say what material it is made from, identify its properties and	Some children may think:
make a link between the properties and a particular use	only fabrics are materials
Can label a picture or diagram of an object made from different materials	only building materials are materials
For a given object can identify what properties suitable material needs to have	only writing materials are materials
Whilst changing the shape of an object can describe the action used	the word rock describes an object rather than
Can use the words flexible and/or stretchy to describe materials that can be changed in	a material
shape and stiff and/or rigid for those that cannot	solid is another word for hard.
Can recognise that a material may come in different forms which have different	
properties	