

Topic: Living things and their habitats

What should I already know?

- Which things are living, dead and things which have never been alive.
- The names of some common plants and types of trees..
- Some animals are suitable to be kept as pets but others are not.
- All animals need water, air and food to survive
- Animals can be grouped into vertebrates and invertebrates
- Animals can be grouped into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores
- Animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults.
- Different **vegetation** belts and **biomes** around the world.

Vocabulary					
biomes	a natural area of vegetation and animals				
carnivore	an animal that eats meat				
depend	If you depend on someone or something, you				
	need them in order to be able to survive physically				
food chain	a series of living things which are linked to each				
	other because each thing feeds on the one next to				
	it in the series				
habitat	the natural environment in which an animal or				
	plant normally lives or grows				
herbivore	an animal that only eats plants				
invertebrate	a creature that does not have a spine, for example				
	an insect, a worm, or an octopus				
microhabitat	a small part of the environment that supports				
	a habitat, such as a fallen log in a forest				
minibeast	a small invertebrate animal such as an insect or				
	spider				
offspring	a person's children or an animal's young				
omnivore	person or animal eats all kinds of food, including				
	both meat and plants				
plant	a living thing that grows in the earth and has a				
	stem, leaves, and roots				
source	where something comes from				
tree	a tall plant that has a hard trunk, branches, and				
	leaves				
vegetation	plants, trees and flowers				
vertebrate	a creature which has a spine				

Investigate!

- Observe carefully a microhabitat (forest school) and sketch the plants you find. Can you find any evidence of plants being eaten? What other living things can you see?
- Compare two different habitats and explain what animals and plants can be found there.
- Go on a minibeast hunt. What minibeasts can you find? Why can they survive in their habitat? Create a tally chart or pictogram to show your results.
- Compare two different microhabitats. What do you notice about the minibeasts that live in each one? Why do you think that is? Discuss how the minibeasts help keep the microhabitat healthy.
- Use your knowledge of biomes to describe the types of animals and plants that live there. Match animals and plants to their habitats (e.g. forest, ocean, poles, desert).
- Answer questions such as 'Why would a polar bear not survive in the desert?'
- Create simple **food chains** that begin with a **plant**. Discuss what would happen if one of those living things in a **food chain** did not exist.

What will I know by the end of the unit?

What is a habitat?

Year: 2

- A habitat is a place where living things, such as animals and plants, can find all of the things they need to survive. This includes food, water, air, space to move and grow and some shelter.
- Some **habitats** are large, like the ocean, and some are very small, such as under a log.
- Some **habitats** in our local area include the river and woodlands. Other habitats include the coast and the forest.









Strand: Biology













desert

rt woodla

ındra

habita

What is a micro-habitat?

- Microhabitats are very small habitats where minibeasts may live.
- Examples of microhabitats include under stones, in grass, under fallen leaves and in the soil.
- Minibeasts that can be found there include worms, snails, ants, centipedes, millipedes, and butterflies and they help to keep the microhabitat healthy.
- Minibeasts are able to survive in their habitats because they can find the things they need to survive there, such as food and water. For example, caterpillars can survive on leaves as they give them food.



log







leaves

soil

minibeas

foxes

How do animals and plants depend on each other?

- Animals and plants depend on each other to survive. For example, worms depend on plants because they feed on dead leaves, but plants depend on worms who make the soil healthy by digging holes and allowing air in.
- Birds also need worms because they eat them. Worms are a **source** of food for birds.
- This called a food chain.
- If there were no worms, there would be less birds as there would be more competition for food. The soil would not be as healthy without worms.





 All living things (or things that were once living) have a part to play in food chains.
 Without them, other animals and plants may not be able to survive.

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Question 1: Which of these is not an example of a microhabitat?				Start of unit:	:	End of unit:	
under a log							
the ocean							
under fallen leaves							
in the grass							
Question 2: Which of these might you find in a microhabitat? Tick				6		- I C ''	
two.			Start of unit:			End of unit:	
worm							
lion							
ladybird							
shark							
		I					
Question 3: Billy has found a woodlouse under a large rock.			Start of unit: End		Final of the		
What does a woodlouse need to survive?			Start of unit:			End of unit:	
food							
air							
water							
food, air and water							
Question 4: How do worms help keep their habitat healthy?			Start of unit:			End of unit:	
They wriggle							
They hide in the soil							
They create holes in the soil allowing air in							
They don't keep their habitat healthy							
Question 5: Place these in the correct place to create a simple food chain:				Start of unit:		End of unit:	
caterpillar sparrow	leaves						