Science – Living Things and their Habitats – Year 4 – Summer 1

Vocabulary Top Ten:

characteristics	a feature or quality belonging typically to a person, place, or thing to identify them
classification key	a set of questions about the characteristics of living things
consumer	a living thing that eats other plants and animals
endangered	a species at serious risk of extinction
food chain	shows how living things are linked through their food
organism	a living thing
pollution	when the environment is contaminated by waste, chemicals, and other harmful substances
predator	an animal that hunts another animal
prey	an animal that is hunted or killed by another animal for food
producer	makes its own food such as a green plant makes food by photosynthesis

Characteristics of Organisms

- **M**ovement
- **R**espiration
- **S**ensitivity
- **G**rowth
- **R**eproduction
- **E**xcretion
- **N**utrition

Vertebrates (animal with a backbone)

	Mammals	Birds	Reptiles	Amphibian	Fish
Body covering	hairy or furry skin	feathers	tough skin with scales	soft, moist skin	scales
How it breathes?	lungs	lungs	lungs	lungs	gills
Where it lives?	mostly on land	on land	mostly on land	on land and in water	in water
Offspring	most young born live	lay eggs	lay eggs	lay eggs (in water)	lay eggs

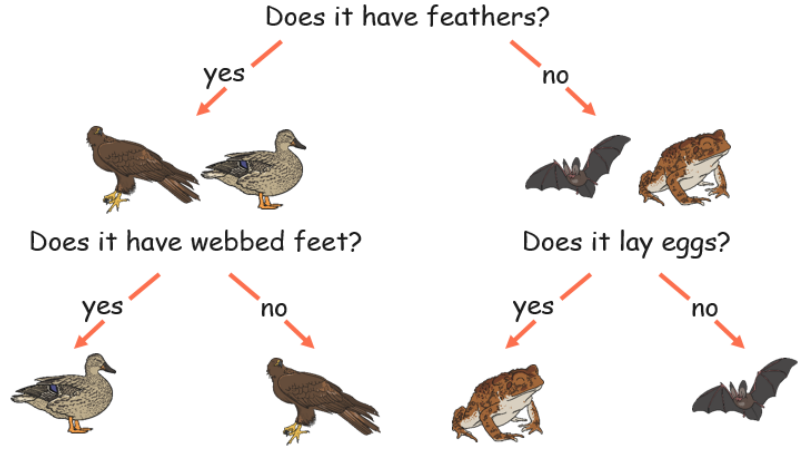
Food Chains



plant → insect → mouse → owl

producer → consumer → consumer → consumer

Classification Key



Habitats

A **habitat** is the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism. Humans affect the environment in positive and negative ways.

Negative effects:

- cutting down trees
- plastic and household waste
- air pollution
- water pollution

Positive effects:

- protecting endangered species
- cleaning lakes and seas
- recycling waste
- growing plants or vegetables