Year 2 – Spring 1 Knowledge Organiser

Living things and their habitats



HeathfieldSchools'Partnership

This Science unit follows on from previous studies of 'Living things' in Year 1. This unit will deepen the children's understanding of animals including humans and basic needs as well as learning key vocabulary which they will use to explain their new understanding. They will learn about the importance of the seven life processes to determine the characteristics of things that are living, dead or never been alive. The children will also learn how living things adapt to the conditions of their natural environment and identify the special features that allow them to survive there.

Key knowledge

The children will be asked what is needed to be a living thing? They will be introduced to the seven life processes which determine whether an organism is a living thing'





Using the seven life processes the children will determine whether an item is living or not living. They will find out that non-living things (dead) were once living or part of a living thing.



The children will complete activities sorting and classifying which will now include those items that have never been alive at all. Again using the seven life processes they will answer: What are the characteristics of living things, dead things and things that have never been alive?



Building on previous learning the children will focus on the importance of habitats . They will discover that living things, such as animals and plants, need the right habitat to find everything they need to survive.

The children will identify a variety of habitats and know which type of animal survives in the differing conditions.



Through research the children will find out the ways in which animals have adapted to their habitat.



Key Vocabulary

Life processes — are the series of actions that are essential to determine if an organism is alive

Respiration— needs air/oxygen

Sensitivity— using senses or responding to the environment

Reproduce —make more of their own type

Excretion— get rid of waste

Nutrition— feed

Habitat—a place where living things are found naturally and find everything they need to survive.

Adapt—Living things adapt to their habitats—they have special features that help them to survive.

Key Questions

What characteristics do you need to have to be a living thing?

What are the characteristics of dead things?

What are the characteristics of things that have never been alive?

What is a habitat?

What animals and plants do you find in the ocean, desert, artic or rainforest?

How have some animals adapted to live in the desert or arctic?

Year 2 – Spring 2 Knowledge Organiser

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This Science unit follows on from last half term when we learned about the importance of the seven life processes to determine the characteristics of things that are living, dead or never been alive. How living things adapt to the conditions of their natural environment and identified the special features that allow them to survive there. This half term we will Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats. The children will 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 knowledge

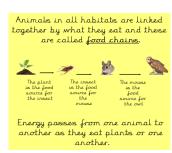
The children will be asked what a microhabitat is and what animals would you find in one. They will be introduced to what a microhabitat is, where you would find them and the types of creatures you may find in a microhabitat.

Can we match any of these miniheasts to their habitat?

Building on their previous learning on omnivores, carnivores and herbivores the children will look at how living things depend on each other to survive.



Using what they have learnt about dependency the children will learn about how animals obtain their food from other animals and plants around them.



Building on their previous learning of food chains the children will learn about producers and consumers within a food chain. They will discover that there are 4 different types of consumers; omnivores, carnivores, herbivores and scavengers.



Key Vocabulary

Microhabitat - Are very small habitats where mini-beasts may live.

Scavenger - An animal who eats dead animals that has already been killed in another way.

Dependency - How living things in a habitat depend on each other.

Food Chain - The order in which things are eaten.

Producer - Living things that create the energy in a food chain are called producers.

Consumer - Living things that use the energy in a food chain are called consumers.

Key Questions

What is a microhabitat and what animals might you find in one?

How do living things in a habitat depend on each other?

How do animals obtain their food from plants and other animals?