Classification	The process of sorting things into different groups in accordance to their characteristics.
Environment	The place or conditions in which a human, animal or plant lives. Environments can contain many habitats.
Organisms	This is another word that can be used to describe all 'living things.'
Habitat	The natural home or environment of a particular animal, plant or other organism.
Life Processes	The things that living things do to stay alive. To stay alive and healthy, all living things need certain conditions that let them carry out the seven life processes below:
Movement	The act of moving.
Respiration	In humans we call this 'breathing'. Respiration is the process where plants and animals use oxygen gas from the air to help turn their food into energy.
Sensitivity	Sensitivity is the way in which living things react to changes in their environment. Our skin is 'sensitive' – look at the way in which you get goosebumps when you are cold.
Growth	The act of getting bigger, taller or more mature.
Reproduction	The process in which new organisms or 'young' are produced from their 'parent' or 'parents'.
Excretion	The process by which living things get rid of waste products. (You will know this as 'pooing'.
Nutrition	The process of obtaining (getting) food to provide living things with the energy to live and stay healthy.
Classification	This is where plants or animals are placed into groups by looking closely at their similarities or differences.
Vertibrate	An animal with a backbone.
Invertebrate	An animal without a backbone.
Population	The total number of a species in a particular area or on the planet as a whole.
Endangered	A plant or animal is described as 'endangered' when there are not many of their species left and scientists are worried that the species may become extinct meaning there are no more members of that species alive on the planet.

Plants and animals rely on their environment to give them everything they need. Therefore, when habitats change, it can be very dangerous to the plants and animals that live there:
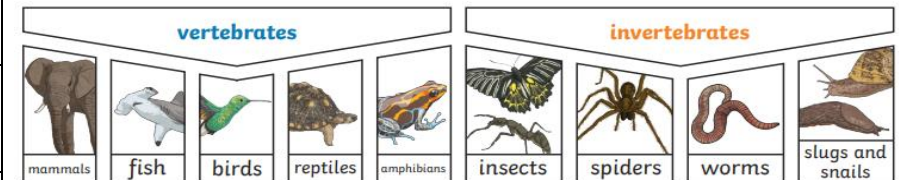
Changes to an environment can be natural or caused by humans. Examples include:

Natural: earthquakes, storms, floods. Draughts, wildfires, the seasons

Human-made: deforestation, pollution, urbanisation, the introduction of a new animal or plant species to an environment.

Animals can be grouped in lots of different ways by looking at how they are similar or different.

vertebrates: mammals, fish, birds, reptiles, amphibians

invertebrates: insects, spiders, worms, slugs and snails

Vertebrates can be separated into five broad groups.

You could sort invertebrates you might see around school in different ways, such as in this example. The vast majority of living things on the planet are invertebrates.

You can use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things. Here is an example of a classification key:

Invertebrate Classification Key