

Year 2 Science: Living things and their habitats

What I should already know:

A variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.

The structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, bird and mammals) including pets.

By the end of this unit:

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 microhabitats.

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.

Examples of habitats



woodland



urban



coastal



rainforest



arctic



desert



ocean



river



mountain

Examples of microhabitats



short grass



flowers



inside rotting wood



under leaves



in and on soil

Key vocabulary

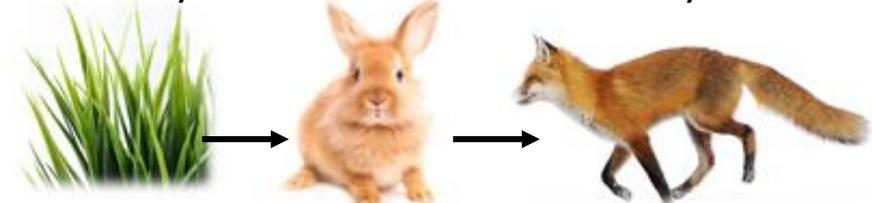
Environment	Everything around us; all of the conditions, influences and physical landscape surrounding a living thing.
Habitat	The natural home of an animal or plant and provides their basic needs – shelter, food and water.
Microhabitats	A very small habitat within a larger habitat where mini-beasts may live e.g. under a log.
Conditions	What a place look and feels like.
Mini-beast	A small animal such as worms, ants, snails and bees that help keep micro-habitats healthy.
Characteristics	A feature or quality belonging to a person, place or thing.
Life processes	These are the things that all living things do. They move, breathe, grow, make babies, get rid of waste, get their energy from food and sense their surroundings.
Living	Things that are living have all the life processes.
Dead	Things that are dead were once living. They did have all the life processes but don't now e.g. skeleton
Never living	They never had the life processes. E.g. metal, plastic and rock.
Food chain	Shows how each animal gets its food. They are one of the ways that living things depend on each other to stay alive.

Food chains - the arrow means 'is eaten by'



The leaf is eaten by the snail.

The snail is eaten by the bird.



The grass is eaten by the rabbit.

The rabbit is eaten by the fox.