

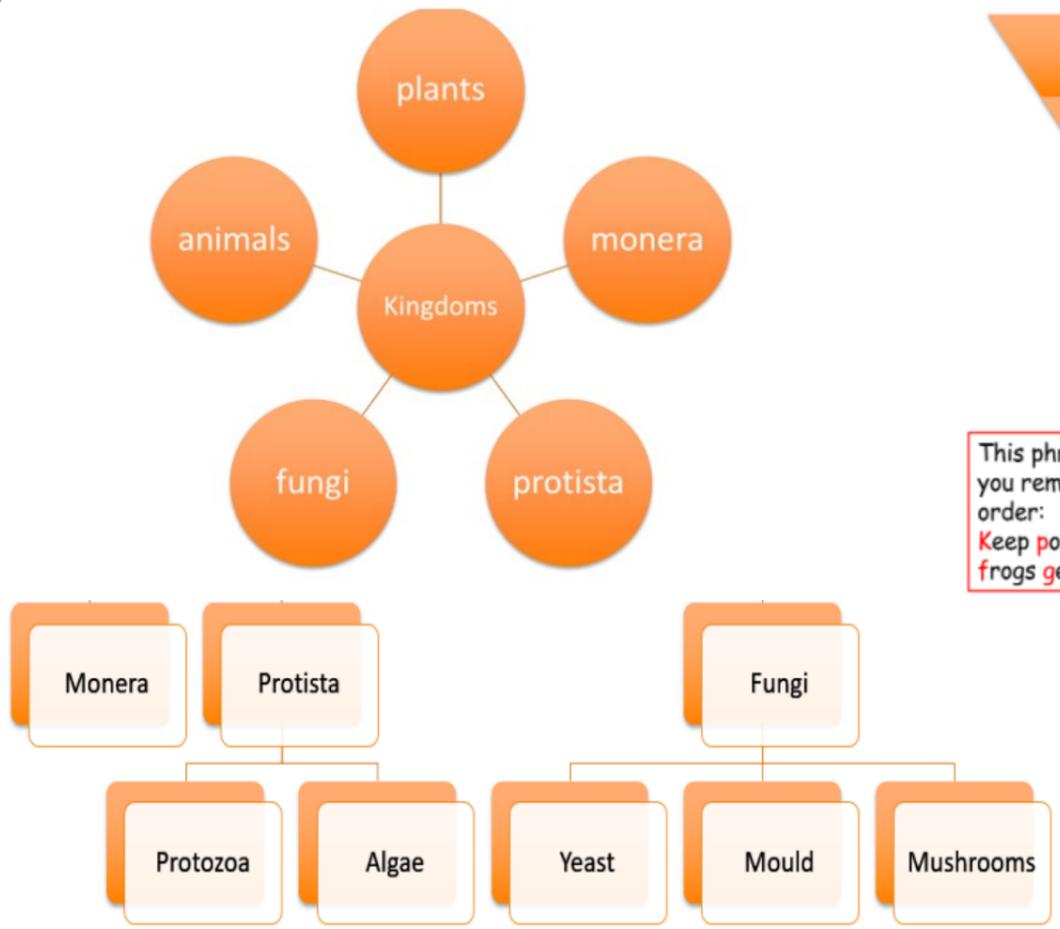
Living Things and Their Habitats

Vocabulary	Definition
characteristic	A feature of an organism that is specific to that organism
classification	The grouping of organisms based on their similarities
distinguish	Recognising a difference between organisms
fungi	Organisms found in the damp such as mushrooms and moulds
kingdom	The largest category for grouping of organisms
monera	Single-celled organisms, mainly bacteria
organism	A living thing
protista	Organisms which are a single unit, different to bacteria
species	A group of organisms that share common characteristics
taxonomy	The study of classification.

What is classification?

There could be as many as 10 million different species on Earth. It would be hard to study the behaviours of these without grouping them together somehow. Scientists sort and group living things according to their similarities and differences. This is called classification. Keys can be used to identify organisms based on these groupings.

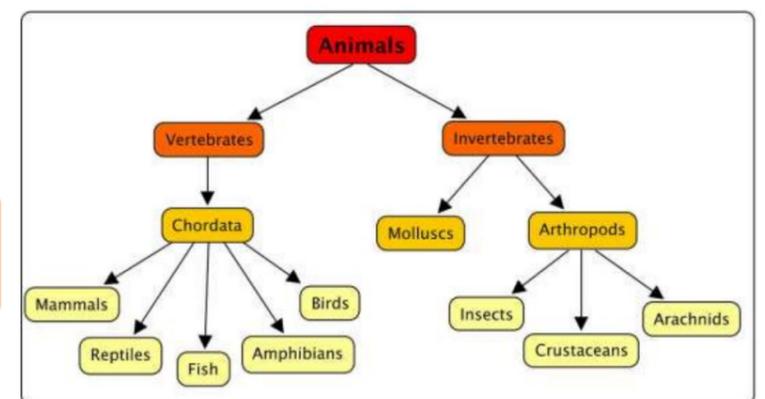
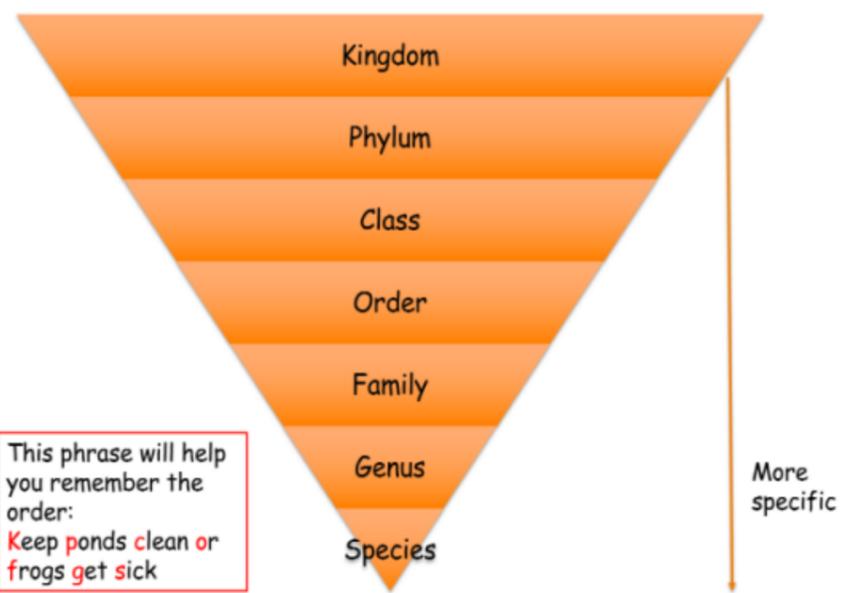
What are the main Kingdoms of life?



Who was Carl Linnaeus?

Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) was a Swedish scientist who believed that a standard system of classification was needed. At the time he was alive, there was no agreed standard method. In 1735, he published his first edition of 'Systema Naturae', which described his system for classifying living things. Linnaeus' original system of classification classified everything in nature into a hierarchy.

The Seven Levels of Linnaeus' System



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