

Living things and their habitats: How do we classify things?

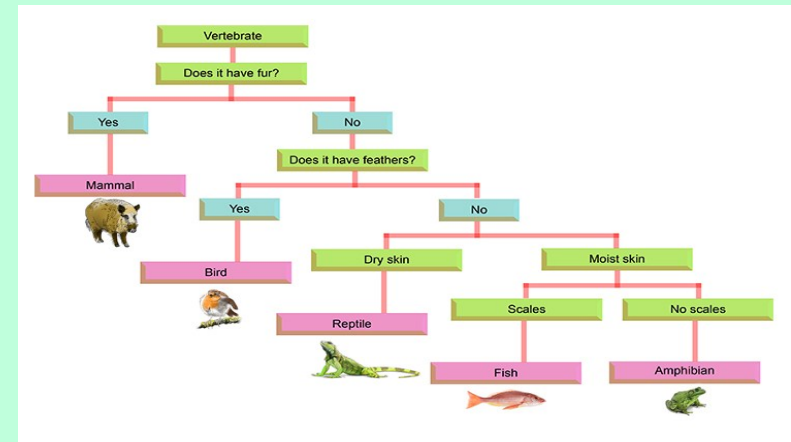
key vocabulary

characteristics	Unique features that helps us to tell things apart.
classification key	A list of questions that determine an organism's physical characteristics.
extinct	A species that no longer exists anywhere on Earth.
habitat	The natural environment where an animal or plant lives and survives.
kingdom	A part of the classification that groups animals with similar characteristics.
organism	A living thing.
species	A species is a group of living organisms that share similar features and can reproduce

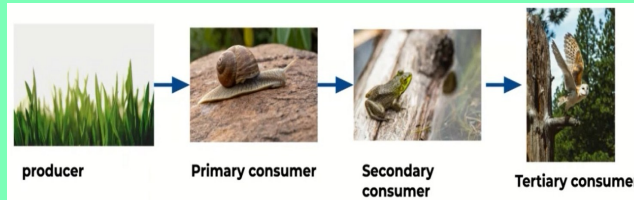
What is classification?

Classification is a system scientists use to group **organisms** based on their similar **characteristics**. When we group plants and animals like this, we can better understand and study life on Earth.

- we use **classification keys** to organise organisms into groups
- at each branch of the key there are two possible answers
- decide whether an organism has / does not have a characteristic to narrow it down into a **kingdom** or **species**



Food chains



Producer = can make their own energy and provides food for other organisms

Consumer = feeds on other organisms for energy

Endangered Animals

What is an endangered animal?

An endangered animal is a species at serious risk of becoming **extinct** soon because it is struggling to survive in its natural habitat

What are the risks to its survival?

Habitats changes—sometimes natural but also due to human influences.

Fast changes to an animal's environment endanger their lives, because they cannot adapt (change) to suit the new surroundings quickly enough to survive.