

Science Focus: Living things and their habitats Year 2 Term: 2B

Is it alive?	
Things can be split into three groups:	Things that are alive Things that were alive but are now dead. Things that have never lived.
Things that are alive	Are made from cells and show signs of life (see below)
Things that are dead	Are made from cells. A wooden table used to be alive as a tree.
Things that never lived	These are not made from cells For example, a drain cover is made from particles of metal.

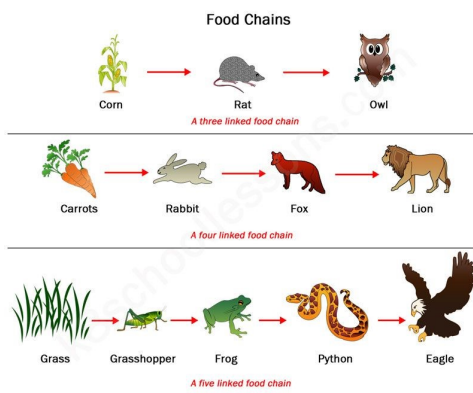
How to tell if it is alive. Living things can:	
Move	For example, animals can run, birds can fly and flowers turn towards light.
Reproduce	This is when living things have offspring. For example, animals have babies and plants have seeds which turn into new plants.
Nutrition	This is where food is used to provide energy. For example, humans get energy from food. Animals eat plants or other animals. Green plants make their own food.
Growth	This is when things get bigger/older. For example, babies grow into adults. Seedlings grow into bigger plants.

	What? (Key Vocabulary)
Spelling	Definition/Sentence
Cells	The basic part of all living things
Underside	Underneath or bottom of something
Webbed	Where fingers or toes are connected by skin
Excess	More than is needed
Environment	The conditions around something

Organisms require a supply of energy
All living things need food as their source of energy. This food comes from directly eating plants (herbivores) or by eating animals (carnivores).

Diagrams and Symbols

Animals get their food from plants and other animals. A food chain shows how energy from food is passed along. Only green plants make their own food, so every food chain starts with a green plant.



The arrow on a food chain means 'is food for' and shows the direction of the energy.

Working as a Scientist

- Conduct an experiment to decide if an object is alive or not (such as a car)
- Investigate habitats in the school environment (such as hedgerows and trees). Investigate micro-habitats such as under stones and under logs
- Construct food chains using given plants and animals
- Investigate the range of impacts should one aspect of the food chain die out
- Investigate what habitats animals like using 'choice chambers'?

Habitats

What is a habitat?	Most living things live in an environment they are suited to. This is their habitat.
Types of habitats	Habitats can be very different. For example they can be: They can be hot or cold Wet or Dry On the ground or up high
Choosing the right habitat	Animals live in habitats that suit them best. For example, a fish can breathe in water and can swim well so it lives in water. A worm has brown skin, bristles on its underside to grip and a pointed head. All of these mean that the soil is a good

Examples of animals and plants in their habitats

Cold habitat	Polar bear - thick white fur, to keep warm and camouflaged in the snow.
Hot habitat	The Desert Rat - Large ears to help lose excess body heat. Good hearing and sight in the dark so can hunt at night
Dry habitat	The cactus - long roots find water that is deep in the ground. Thin needle leaves don't lose water.
Wet habitat	The Otter - eyes and nostrils can close underwater. Feet are webbed to help move in the water.