



Topic: Living things and their habitats

Year: 2

|   | Key Knowledge   |
|---|---|
| What is<br><b>living, non-</b><br><b>living</b> and<br>never been<br>alive? | <ul> <li>Everything is either living, non-living or never been alive.</li> <li>If something is living, it must be able to grow, move, feed, breathe, feel, get rid of waste and reproduce</li> </ul>  |
| What is a<br><b>habitat</b> ?   | <ul> <li>A habitat is a place where living things, such as animals and plants, can find all of the things they need to survive. This includes food, water, air, shelter and space to move and grow.</li> <li>Some habitats are large, like the ocean, and some are very small, such as under a log.</li> <li>Some habitats in our local area include the river and woodlands. Other habitats include the coast and the forest.</li> </ul>   |
|   | ocean forest river pond coast   |
| What is a<br>micro-<br>habitat?   | <ul> <li>Microhabitats are very small habitats where minibeasts may live.</li> <li>Examples of microhabitats include under stones, in grass, under fallen leaves and in the soil.</li> <li>Minibeasts include worms, snails, ants, centipedes, millipedes, and butterflies; they help to keep the microhabitat healthy.</li> <li>Minibeasts can find everything they need to survive in their habitats. For example, caterpillars can survive on leaves as they give them food.</li> <li>Minibeast</li> </ul> |

## Investigate

- How do I know if something is alive?
- Look at local habits what are they like? What might live there?
- Why are different animals suited to their habitat?
- What do different animals eat?

| How do  | • Animals and <b>plants</b> depend on each other to   |  |  |
|---------|---|--|--|
| animals | survive. For example, worms depend on   |  |  |
| and     | <b>plants</b> because they feed on dead leaves, but   |  |  |
| plants  | <b>plants</b> depend on worms, which make the soil  |  |  |
| depend  | healthy by digging holes and allowing air in.   |  |  |
| on each | • Birds also need worms because they eat them.  |  |  |
| other?  | Worms are a <b>source</b> of food for birds.  |  |  |
|         | • This called a <b>food chain</b> .   |  |  |
|         | • If there were no worms, there would be fewer  |  |  |
|         | birds as there would be more competition for  |  |  |
|         | food. The soil would not be as healthy  |  |  |
|         | without worms.  |  |  |
|         | <ul> <li>All living things (or things that were once</li> </ul>   |  |  |
|         | living) have a part to play in <b>food chains</b> .   |  |  |
|         | Without them, other animals and <b>plants</b>   |  |  |
|         | may not be able to survive.   |  |  |
|         | Examples of food chains:  |  |  |
|         |   |  |  |
|         | $\mathscr{A} \longrightarrow \mathscr{A} \longrightarrow \mathscr{D}$   |  |  |
|         | dead leaves worm bird   |  |  |
|         |   |  |  |
|         | $\downarrow \downarrow $ |  |  |
|         | grass rabbits foxes   |  |  |

Key Knowledge

| Key Vocabulary |   |
|----------------|---|
| carnivore      | An animal that only eats meat             |
| depend         | If you depend on something, you need it   |
|                | in order to be able to survive            |
| environment    | The environment is everything that is     |
|                | around us - living and non-living         |
| food chain     | A series of living things which are       |
|                | linked to each other because each thing   |
|                | feeds on the one next to it in the series |
| habitat        | The natural environment in which an       |
|                | animal or plant normally lives or grows   |
| herbivore      | An animal that only eats plants           |
| living         | Things which can grow, move, feed,        |
|                | breathe, feel, get rid of waste and       |
|                | reproduce.                                |
| microhabitat   | A small part of the environment that      |
|                | supports a habitat, such as a fallen log  |
|                | in a forest                               |
| non-living     | Things that cannot grow, move, feed,      |
|                | breathe, feel, get rid of waste or        |
|                | reproduce.                                |
| omnivore       | An animal that eats both meat and         |
|                | plants.                                   |