What should I already know?

- Animals can be grouped into: vertebrates and invertebrates; fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds or mammals; carnivores, herbivores or omnivores.
- Examples of habitats (and microhabitats) along with examples of plants and animals that may be found there.
- Living things depend on each other to survive.
- Can name some common wild and garden plants as well as deciduous and evergreen trees.

Let's investigate!

- Carefully observe minibeasts in a microhabitat and use a classification key to identify them.
- Explore positive and negative examples of human impact on the environment.
- Sort plants into groups (e.g. flowering and non-flowering) and create a classification key to help others to identify them.
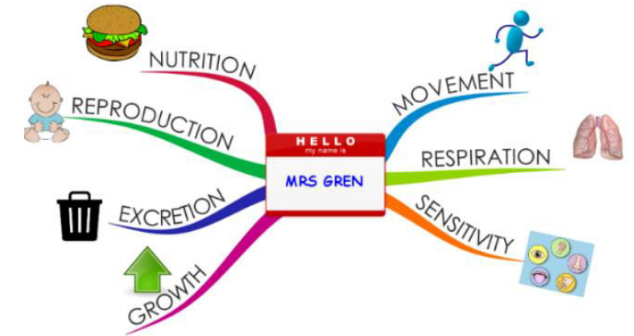
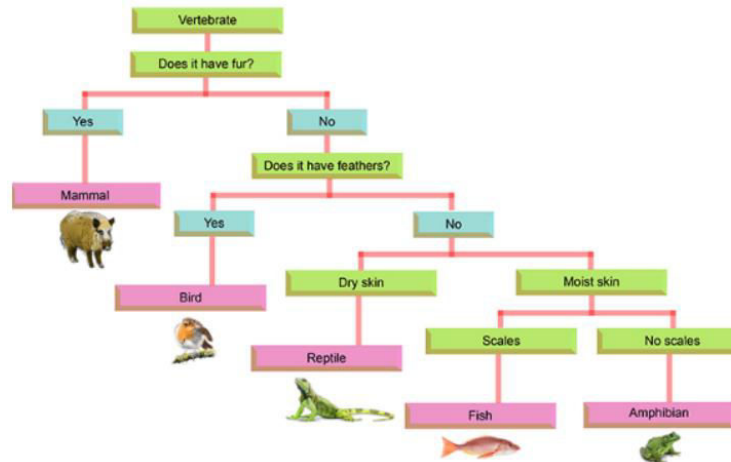| Vocabulary	
Bacteria	A unicellular microorganism.
Biomes	A natural area of **vegetation** and animals.
Carnivore	An animal that eats meat.
Characteristics	A special feature that makes an individual or group different.
Classification key	A system which divides things into groups or types.
Climate Change	A change in global climate patterns over a period of time.
Criteria	A factor on which something is judged.
Decay	Where something rots or decomposes.
Deciduous	Trees that lose leaves in the autumn every year.
Environment	All the circumstances, people, things and events around them that influences their life.
Evergreen	A tree or bush which has green leaves all year round.
Excretion	The process of eliminating waste from the body.
Extinction	A species that is no longer living.
Food chain	a series of living things which are linked to each other. Each thing feeds on the one next to it in the series.
Fungi	Organisms that feed off organic matter.
Habitat	The natural **environment** in which an animal or **plant** normal lives and grows.
Herbivore	An animal that eats only plants.
Invertebrate	A creature that does not have a backbone (spine).
Life processes	There are seven of them. They tell us if something is alive (MRS GREN).
Microhabitat	A small part of the **environment** that supports a **habitat**, such as a fallen log in a forest.
Minibeast	A small **invertebrate** such as an insect or spider.
Nutrition	The process of taking food into the body and absorbing the nutrients.
Offspring	A human or animals child/young.
Omnivore	Person or animal that eats both meat and plants.
Organism	A living thing.
Pollution	The presence of a substance that is harmful.
Reproduction	When an animal or plant produces one or more individuals, smaller to itself.
Respiration	Process of respiring (breathing) air.
Sensitivity	Responding to the external **environment.**
Species	A group of living things that have similarities and can produce offspring together.
Urban	Belonging or relating to a town or city.
Vegetation	Plants, trees and flowers.
Vertebrate	A creature which has a backbone (spine).

What I will learn in this topic?		
Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.	All living things are called organisms – they need to do certain things to stay alive (MRS GREN). Animals can be grouped based on their physical characteristics (invertebrate or vertebrate) and their behaviour (herbivore, carnivore, omnivore). Living things are divided into kingdoms: - The animal kingdom (mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, fish) - Plants - Fungi - Bacteria - Single-celled organisms.	
Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.	Classification keys use questions to sort and identify different living things. 	
Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.	Changes to the environment can make it difficult for animals to survive and reproduce. In extreme cases, it can lead to extinction. Human activity can change the environment for many living things. - Positive effects = nature reserves, ecological parks. - Negative effects = urban development, pollution. The polar bear is a famous example of climate change endangering the existence of a species.	