



Springbank Primary School Knowledge Organiser

Year 4	Term: Spring term 1	Focus: Living things and their habitats – classification keys
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Vocabulary	Definitions	Diagrams
Vertebrate	Vertebrates are animals with a backbone, mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians are all vertebrates.	<p style="text-align: center;">An example classification key for vertebrates</p>
Invertebrate	Invertebrates are animals without backbones like insects, arachnids (spiders) and worms.	
Mammals	Mammals are warm blooded and hairy, most have live babies but all feed their young with milk.	
Birds	Birds are warm blooded and covered in feathers, they lay eggs. All birds have wings but not all can fly.	
Reptiles	Reptiles are cold blooded animals that have dry scaly skin. Most lay eggs but some can have live babies.	
Amphibians	Amphibians are cold blooded animals that live on land or in water, they lay their eggs in water. Amphibians have wet smooth skin.	
Fish	Fish are cold blooded scaly animals that live in water. They have fins and tail to help them swim and gills to breathe underwater.	
Warm blooded	Warm blooded animals can keep their body at one temperature.	
Cold blooded	A cold blooded animal's body temperature depends on how hot or cold their surroundings are.	
Classification key	Classification keys are branching diagrams that use yes/no questions to help identify animals/plants.	