Science – Living things and their habitats
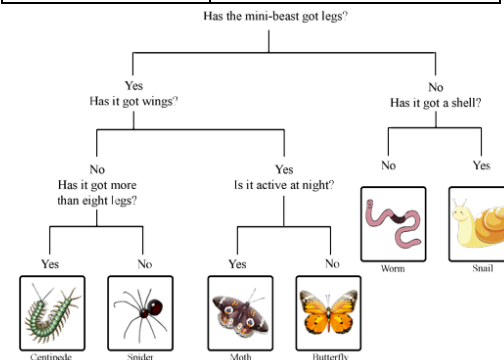
YEAR 4   Spring 1

Vertebrates

Vertebrates	Are animals with a backbone
There are 5 ways Vertebrates can be grouped	- Fish - Amphibians - Reptiles - Birds - Mammals
How to spot a Fish	Breathes with gills/lays eggs in water/has fins and scales/its body temperature changes
How to spot an Amphibian	Born with gills then develops lungs/lays eggs in water/damp skin/body temperature changes
How to spot a Reptile	Breathes with lungs/lays eggs on land/dry scaly skin/body temperature changes
How to spot a Bird	Breathes with lungs/lays eggs with hard shells/has feathers/steady body temperature
How to spot a Mammal	Breathes with lungs/babies are born live/body hair or fur/steady body temperature/feeds babies milk

Classifying Animals and Plants

What is classifying?	Grouping things that are similar.
How can we group?	We can create branched diagrams to help us.

Invertebrates

Invertebrates	Invertebrates are animals with no backbones.
There are 3 ways Invertebrates can be grouped	- Insects - Arachnids - Molluscs
How to spot an Insect	3 body sections/6 legs
How to spot an Arachnid	2 body sections/8 legs
How to spot a Mollusc	Slimy foot/Often have a shell

Plant Groups

Flowering Plants	Grasses/Cereals/Garden Shrubs/Deciduous Trees (Lose their leaves)
Non Flowering Plants	Algae/Coniferous (Evergreen) Trees/Ferns

Vocabulary	Definition
Gills	Slits on the side of a fish to help it breathe.
Fins	Part of a fish that helps it move and balance.
Scales	Thin plates protecting the skin of fish or reptiles.
Lungs	Spongy bags in the chest used when breathing.
Body Temperature	How hot or cold the inside of an animals body is.
Algae	A small plant that is found in water. It has no stems, roots or leaves.

Animal habitats