

# **Knowledge Overview**



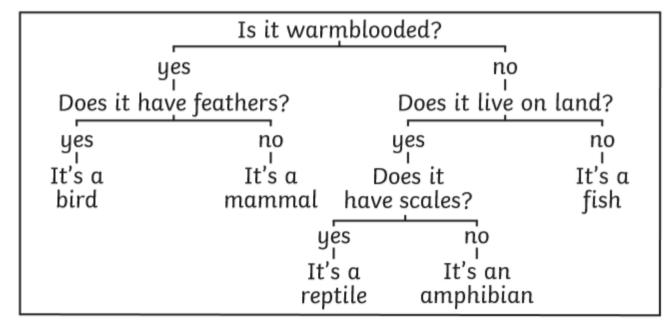
## Year 6: Classification

# Vocabulary:

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characteristics	Special qualities or
	appearances that make
	an individual or group of
	things different to
	others.
classify	To sort things into
	different groups.
taxonomist	A scientist who classifies
	different living things
	into categories.
key	A key is a series of
	questions about the
	characteristics of living
	things. A key is used to
	identify a living thing or
	decide which group it
	belongs to by answering
	yes or no questions.
species	A group of animals that
	can reproduce to
	produce fertile offspring.
bacteria	A single-celled micro-
	organism.
microorganism	An organism that can
	only be seen using a
	microscope e.g bacteria,
	mould, yeast.

#### How do characteristic keys work?

All living things can be classified using the eight levels of the Linnaeus system. The number of living things in each level gets smaller until only one animal is left. A simpler kind of key is shown below.







### **Important Scientists**

# Carl Linnaeus 1707-1778.

In 1735, Swedish Botanist (a scientist who concentrates on the study of plants) Carl Linnaeus first published a system for classifying all living things.

An adapted version of this is still used today – The Linnaeus System.