

What creatures do we share our planet with?

Biomes

Biomes are regions of the world with similar climate, animals and plants. Here are some of the different types of biomes;

Aquatic **Desert** **Forest** **Grassland** **Rainforest** **Tundra**

Life Cycles

All plants and animals have a life cycle but they are different depending on the type of animal or plant.

Frog life cycle

Human life cycle

Strawberry life cycle

Key vocabulary:

Apex predator: Also known as a top predator, this is a predator at the top of a food chain.

Asexual reproduction: Only one parent is needed. This occurs mostly in plants and bacteria.

Characteristics: Special qualities or appearances that make an individual or group of things different to others.

Classify: To sort things into different groups.

Predator: An animal which hunts or preys on other animals for food.

Prey: The term used for an animal that is eaten by another animal.

Reproduction: The process in which living things create off-spring (children or babies). Offspring will have DNA from their parents and have similar characteristics.

Sexual reproduction: Both the male and female are needed. Most animals reproduce sexually.

Species: A group of animals that can reproduce to produce fertile offspring.

Taxonomist: A scientist who classifies different living things into categories.

Food chains and webs

A **food chain** shows us how plants and animals within a **habitat** rely on each other for food.

Food chains usually start with a green plant (**a producer**) which is eaten by an animal (**a consumer**), which is then eaten by another animal. Plants are called producers because they produce their own food. Animals are called consumers because they eat plants and other animals.

Most plants and animals are part of more than one food chain. When a number of food chains in a specific habitat are joined together, we call this a **food web**.

Food chain

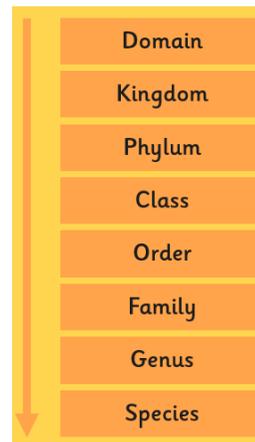
Food web

Classification

In **1735**, Swedish Scientist **Carl Linnaeus** first published a system for classifying all living things. An adapted version of this system is still used today: **The Linnaeus System**.

Living things can be **classified** by the eight levels in this system. The number of living things in each level gets smaller until the one animal is left in its **species** level.

Each group allows scientists to observe and understand the **characteristics** of living things more clearly. They group similar things together then split the groups again and again based on their differences.



Living things can be classified by following the levels in this system. The number of living things in each group gets smaller and smaller, until there will just be one type of animal in the species group.