Caroline Haslett Primary School: Spring 2
Living Things and Their Habitats Year 2

What should I already know?

- Which things are living, dead and things which have never been alive.
- The names of some common **plants** and types of **trees.**.
- Some animals are suitable to be kept as pets but others are not.
- All animals need water, air and food to **survive**
- Animals can be grouped into **vertebrates** and **invertebrates**
- Animals can be grouped into **carnivores, herbivores** and **omnivores**
- Animals, including humans, have **offspring** which grow into adults.
- Different **vegetation** belts and **biomes** around the world.

Vocabulary

biomes	a natural area of **vegetation** and animals
carnivore	an animal that eats meat
depend	If you **depend** on someone or something, you need them in order to be able to **survive** physically
food chain	a series of living things which are linked to each other because each thing feeds on the one next to it in the series
habitat	the natural environment in which an animal or **plant** normally lives or grows
herbivore	an animal that only eats plants
invertebrate	a creature that does not have a spine, for example an insect, a worm, or an octopus
microhabitat	a small part of the environment that supports a habitat, such as a fallen log in a forest
minibeast	a small **invertebrate** animal such as an insect or spider
offspring	a person's children or an animal's young
omnivore	person or animal eats all kinds of food, including both meat and **plants**
plant	a living thing that grows in the earth and has a stem, leaves, and roots
source	where something comes from
tree	a tall plant that has a hard trunk, branches, and leaves
vegetation	**plants**, trees and flowers
vertebrate	a creature which has a spine

Investigate!

- Observe carefully a **microhabitat** (forest school) and sketch the **plants** you find. Can you find any evidence of **plants** being eaten? What other living things can you see?
- Compare two different **habitats** and explain what animals and **plants** can be found there.
- Go on a **minibeast** hunt. What **minibeasts** can you find? Why can they **survive** in their **habitat**? Create a tally chart or pictogram to show your results.
- Compare two different **microhabitats.** What do you notice about the **minibeasts** that live in each one? Why do you think that is? Discuss how the **minibeasts** help keep the **microhabitat** healthy.
- Use your knowledge of **biomes** to describe the types of animals and **plants** that live there. Match animals and **plants** to their **habitats** (e.g. forest, ocean, poles, desert).
- Answer questions such as 'Why would a polar bear not survive in the desert?'
- Create simple **food chains** that begin with a **plant**. Discuss what would happen if one of those living things in a **food chain** did not exist.

What will I know by the end of the unit?

What is a habitat?

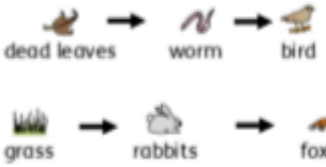
- A **habitat** is a place where living things, such as animals and **plants**, can find all of the things they need to **survive**. This includes food, water, air, space to move and grow and some shelter.
- Some **habitats** are large, like the ocean, and some are very small, such as under a log.
- Some **habitats** in our local area include the river and woodlands. Other habitats include the coast and the forest.

What is a micro-habitat?

- **Microhabitats** are very small **habitats** where **minibeasts** may live.
- Examples of **microhabitats** include under stones, in grass, under fallen leaves and in the soil.
- **Minibeasts** that can be found there include worms, snails, ants, centipedes, millipedes, and butterflies and they help to keep the **microhabitat** healthy.
- **Minibeasts** are able to **survive** in their **habitats** because they can find the things they need to **survive** there, such as food and water. For example, caterpillars can **survive** on leaves as they give them food.

How do animals and plants depend on each other?

- Animals and **plants** depend on each other to **survive.** For example, worms **depend** on **plants** because they feed on dead leaves, but **plants** depend on worms who make the soil healthy by digging holes and allowing air in.
- Birds also need worms because they eat them. Worms are a **source** of food for birds.
- This called a **food chain.**
- If there were no worms, there would be less birds as there would be more competition for food. The soil would not be as healthy without worms.



- All living things (or things that were once living) have a part to play in **food chains.** Without them, other animals and **plants** may not be able to survive.

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Working Scientifically	Questions can help us find out about the world. Ask and answer scientific questions about the world around them. Simple equipment is used to take measurements and observations eg. timers, hand lenses, metre sticks and trundle wheels. Use simple equipment to measure and make observations. Objects, materials and living things can be looked at, compared and grouped according to their features. Observe objects, materials, living things and changes over time, sorting and grouping them based on their features and explaining their reasoning. Data can be recorded and displayed in different ways, including tables, charts, pictograms and drawings. Use a range of methods (tables, charts, diagrams and Venn diagrams) to gather and record simple data with some accuracy. Begin to notice patterns and relationships in their data and explain what they have done and found out using simple scientific language. The results are information that has been found out from an investigation and can be used to answer a question.
Animals including humans and evolution	Living things are those that are alive. Dead things are those that were once living but are no longer. Some things have never been alive. Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. Compare and group things that are living, dead or have never been alive. A habitat is a place where a living thing lives. A microhabitat is a very small habitat e.g. rotting log or under a rock. Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and it must provide everything they need to survive. Describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other. Describe a range of local habitats and habitats beyond their locality (rainforests, deserts, oceans and mountains) and what all habitats provide for the things that live there. Local habitats include parks, woodland and gardens. Habitats beyond the locality include beaches, rainforests, deserts, oceans and mountains. Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in a range of habitats and microhabitats. Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food. Food chains show how living things depend on one another for food. All food chains start with a plant, followed by animals that either eat the plant or other animals. Interpret and construct simple food chains to describe how living things depend on each other as a source of food.