



Year 4 - Living Things and Their Habitats

Changing Environment

All living and non-living things exist in an environment, which includes many habitats for plants and animals. Changes to the environment can be caused by natural or human-made factors. These changes can sometimes pose dangers to living things over time, causing a species to become **endangered**, or worse, **extinct**.

Natural Changes

- earthquakes
- storms
- floods
- droughts
- wildfires

Human-Made Changes

- deforestation
- pollution
- urbanization
- the introduction of new animal or plant species to an environment
- creating new nature reserves

Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
endangered	a plant or animal where there are not many of their species left
extinct	no longer in existence
species	a group of similar organisms that are able to reproduce
producer	living things that can make their own food using air, light, soil and water
consumer	living things that get their energy by eating plants or other animals
predator	an animal that naturally preys on others
prey	an animal that is caught and killed by another for food
vertebrate	animals with backbones
invertebrate	animals with no backbones e.g. an insect, mollusk or arachnid
classify	to arrange in categories based on shared characteristics
conserve	to keep and protect something from damage, change or waste

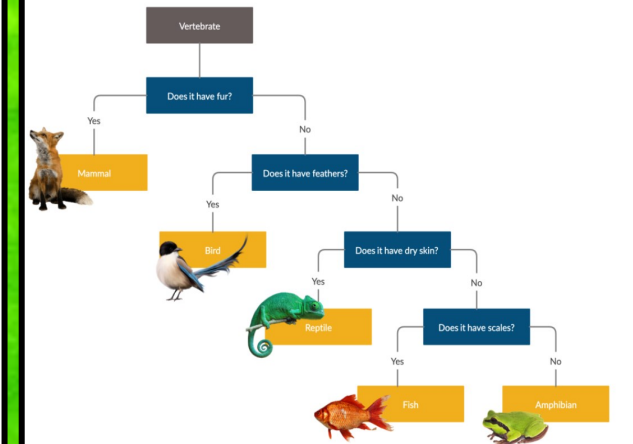
Key Scientist



Born in India in 1925, Gerald Durrell spent much of his childhood in Corfu, Greece. His travels ignited his fascination with animals and love of the natural world. In his adult life, Durrell became a conservationist, who is a person that advocates for the protection and preservation of the environment and wildlife. During his travels, Durrell became concerned about the problems facing wildlife everywhere, which ultimately inspired him to create the concept of zoo-led conservation.

Classification Keys

A classification key is a set of questions and answers for identifying something or deciding which group something belongs to. It often looks like a flow chart and can be thought of as a 'key' for unlocking the identification of an object or living thing.



Food Chains

A food chain is a simple way to show the direction in which energy moves from the **producer** to the various **consumers** at the top or tertiary (third) consumer.

