

Living Things and Their Habitats

Year 2

Key Vocabulary

<b>life processes</b>	These are the things that all <b>living</b> things do. They move, breathe, sense, grow, make babies, get rid of waste and get their energy from food.
<b>living</b>	Things that are <b>living</b> have all the <b>life processes</b> .
<b>dead</b>	Things that are <b>dead</b> were once <b>living</b> . They did have all the <b>life processes</b> but don't now.
<b>never living</b>	Things made out of metal, plastic or rock were <b>never living</b> . They never had the <b>life processes</b> .
<b>food chain</b>	A <b>food chain</b> shows how each animal gets its food. <b>Food chains</b> are one of the ways that <b>living</b> things <b>depend</b> on each other to stay alive.
<b>food sources</b>	This is the place a <b>living</b> thing's food comes from.

Key Knowledge



living



dead



never living

**Food chains.** The arrows mean 'is eaten by'.



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<b>habitat</b>	A <b>habitat</b> is the natural place something lives. A <b>habitat</b> provides <b>living</b> things with everything they need to <b>survive</b> such as food, shelter and water.
<b>microhabitat</b>	A <b>microhabitat</b> is a very small <b>habitat</b> in places like under a rock, under leaves or on a branch. Minibeasts live in <b>microhabitats</b> . The <b>microhabitats</b> have everything they need to <b>survive</b> .
<b>depend</b>	Many <b>living</b> things in a <b>habitat</b> <b>depend</b> on each other. This means they need each other for different things.
<b>survive</b>	This means to stay alive.

Key Knowledge

Examples of **habitats**:



woodland



urban



coastal



rainforest



arctic



desert



ocean



river



mountain

Examples of **microhabitats**:



short grass



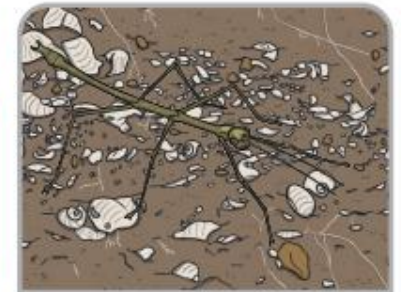
flowers



inside rotting wood



under leaves



in and on soil

## Food Chains:

Now make your own food chains for different habitats. You might need to do some research to find out what the animals eat!



**Ocean Food Chain**



**Desert Food Chain**



**Rainforest Food Chain**

## Espresso

This is an excellent resource for all areas of the curriculum. Use the login details... username student 23554 Password code13.

Go to Key Stage 1 then scroll down to Quick Links ...Subject browse

Find the Science channel for videos, activities and printable resources about habitats.

## Other ideas:

Go for a walk in your local wood, or by a canal, river or lake. See what animals you can find. Here are some ideas to help you find the animals that live there.

- Take a white sheet and place it under a small tree or bush. Gently shake the branches of the tree or bush, and some insects and other creatures may drop out.
- Look under a log. Even this small space is a habitat – sometimes called a ‘micro-habitat’, and you’d be surprised what you can find!
- You can create your own micro-habitat in the garden by putting down an old mat or carpet tile on top of the soil. Leave it for a week or so, then have a look underneath. Think about why these creatures want to live in this habitat.
- Go pond-dipping. Place your net in the water and gently swirl it back and forth. Then put what you have caught into an old ice cream tub full of pond water.

When you’ve done these things, look closely at the creatures you’ve found – can you identify what they are? If not, take a photo and look them up when you get home. Think about why the creatures live where they do, and how they may be adapted to their habitat.

- If you can, visit your nearest beach with your pond dipping equipment, and go hunting in rock pools. Talk about how the things you find are adapted to their habitat, and how they might be similar to or different from the things found in a pond.
- Visit your local aquarium for a close-up look at ocean, river and sea creatures.
- Find out about nocturnal animals in your local environment. Think and talk about why some animals are nocturnal and how they are adapted to this lifestyle.
- Think and talk about the impact of humans on the environment. What are the ways that we can improve the environment for animals? What are some of the things we do that damage habitats? On your next walk, if it’s safe to do so, think about ways to improve habitats, such as litter picking, leaving wild flowers to grow and sticking to footpaths. Make a poster or a short film describing how people can protect habitats.