

## Scientific Vocabulary

Positive - a change for the better.

Negative - an unfavourable change.

Habitat - is the specific area or place in which particular animals or plants may live

Human impact - changes to environments caused directly or indirectly by humans.

Migrate - to change habitat or location.

Hibernate - an inactive state, usually in winter, in which the body temperature drops and breathing slows.

Environment - The environment is the natural world, either as a whole or in a particular area

Species - A species is a group of living things that share enough similarities to be able to breed and produce young capable of breeding.

Endangered species - An endangered species is a species that is at risk of extinction.

Extinct - 'Extinct' means that a species has no more members alive.

Classification - Classification is the process of grouping living things according to their similarities

Warm-blooded - 'Warm-blooded' refers to animals that are able to generate their own body heat.

Cold-blooded - 'Cold-blooded' refers to animals that are not able to generate their own body heat.

Vertebrate - A vertebrate is an animal that has a spine.

Invertebrate - An invertebrate is an animal that does not have a spine.

Invertebrate - An invertebrate is an animal that does not have a spine.

Characteristic - A characteristic is a particular feature or quality that is specific to an individual or species.

Metamorphosis - Metamorphosis is the process by which certain animals completely change their appearance and body structure.

## Environmental Change

### Natural Changes

- The seasons: temperatures rise in the summer and fall in winter. This means that some animals may need to migrate or hibernate.
- Increased or decreased rainfall can also impact on a habitat. Floods and droughts can dramatically impact on environments.
- Fire or earthquake can change the whole environment meaning that some species might be wiped out



### Man-made Changes

- Harvesting fossil fuels, deforestation, dredging rivers, bottom trawling, urbanization, filling in wetlands, and mowing fields, and littering.
- Global warming is thought to be impacting on many habitats.
- Some changes can be good - setting up nature reserves provides a safe space for animals and plants.



## Living things and their habitats

### Year 4

### Habitats

Plants and animals rely on their habitats to give them the conditions they need to live. Habitats can change, both naturally and due to human actions. These actions can have positive and negative effects on the animals that live there. Changes can make it easier or harder for living things to survive in the habitat. Organisms can become endangered or even be made extinct due to changes in their habitats.

### Top Takeaways

Having studied this topic you should be able to:

Group living things as vertebrates (backbone) and invertebrates (without a backbone).

State that vertebrates can be sorted into five main groups with their own characteristics.

State that mammals have warm blood and give birth to live young; birds have warm blood and lay eggs; fish have cold blood, lay eggs and have gills; reptiles have cold blood and have scales; they also live on land; amphibians live on both the land and in water and lay eggs.

State that invertebrates can be sorted into many different groups.

State that humans can have positive effects as well as negative effects on the environment.

Draw accurate classification tables.

Mammals



Birds



Amphibians



Fish



Reptiles



Arthropods



Molluscs



Annelids



Echinoderms



GROUPINGS

### **Scientific Skills**

- ask relevant questions and use different types of scientific enquiries to answer them
- set up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests
- gather, record, classify and present data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions
- record findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables
- use results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions, suggest improvements and raise further questions
- identify differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes
- use straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions and to support findings