This half term children will be learning about a variety of familiar and less familiar animals, including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. They will focus on vertebrate animals.

Children will also continue to look at seasonal change and observe trees and plants for the effects and signs of spring.

Science Year 1 Spring 2 Looking at Animals

Key Facts

There are many different types of animals:

Amphibians - mostly lay eggs in or near water. Young amphibians can breathe under water using their gills and older amphibians can breathe air on land using their lungs. Their skin is moist, smooth and soft. They are cold blooded vertebrate animals.

Reptiles - mostly lay eggs on land. They can't breathe underwater but some can hold their breathe. They breathe air on land using their lungs. Their skin is dry and scaly. They are cold blooded vertebrate animals.

Fish - live in water and most lay lots of soft eggs in the water. They can breathe underwater using their gills. They have scales on their bodies. They are cold blooded vertebrate animals.

Mammals - most mammals don't lay eggs. They give birth to live babies. They can live on land or water. They use lungs to breathe air. Their skin has hairs. They are warm blooded vertebrate animals.

Birds - lay eggs on land. They have feathers. No other animal has feathers. They have 2 wings and most can fly. They all have beaks and 2 legs. They are warm blooded vertebrate animals.

Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Cold blooded	they become the same temperature as their surroundings. So when it's hot, they're hot.
Warm blooded	They can keep warm no matter where they are.
Gills	A part of the fish that helps it breath.
Vertebrates	Animals with a backbone.
Scales	Each of the small, thin horny or bony plates protecting the skin of fish and reptiles, typically overlapping one another.
Carnivores	An animal that eats meat.
Herbivores	An animal that eats plants.
Omnivores	An animal that eats plants and meat.
Predator	An animal that hunts and eats other animals for food.
Prey	An animal that is hunted and killed for food by another animal.

Common misconceptions:

Often children get confused with the different features of various animals.

For example, children may think fur and feathers are the same thing as they both feel soft. As a result, children need to observe the differences of a range of animals to understand their features and make comparisons.

Children also are not aware of the fact that humans are seen as a type of animal.

Knowledge and Understanding:

Children will learn to:

- Name a variety of animals and compare a wide range of animals.
- Name animals body parts, describe their physical features and mimic how they move.
- Understand animals need to eat in order to be healthy and that they eat lots of different types of foods.
- Understand the terms 'carnivore', 'herbivore' and 'omnivore'.
- Understand the difference between wild animals, pets and farm animals.
- Explain the needs of pets and how to take care of them.

Key skills and concepts:

Children will be able to:

- Observe and describe animals from first hand experiences.
- Asking simple questions about animals .
- Gather information from secondary resources to answer their questions about animals.
- Communicate outcomes of information in different way: orally, through physical movement, drawings, simple sentences
- Grouping animals in a variety of ways using Venn diagrams and tables.

Key Questions

How do animals move?

What are the different features of fish and mammals?

What are the features of reptiles and amphibians?

What are the similarities and difference between reptiles and amphibians?

What animals are pets?