What I already know

There are similarities and differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.
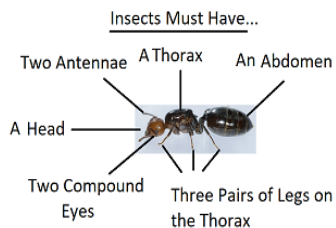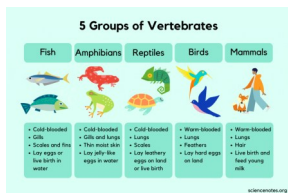
What I will learn in this unit

Classification of living things

Living things include plants and animals.

All animals and plants can be grouped based on their similarities and differences.

Animals

Animals are split into 2 main groups: vertebrates and invertebrates.

Year 4

Autumn 1

Group and classify

Living things
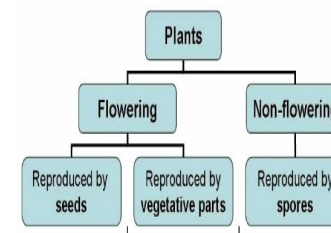
Science Focus: Biology

Classification keys (Branching database)

A key is a set of questions about the characteristics of living things.
Classification keys use sets of yes or no questions to help identify which group a living thing belongs to. They are also called branching database.

KEY VOCABULARY	
Word	**Definition**
Backbone	The row of bones that runs along the centre of the back—spine.
Life processes	Basic functions performed by living organisms to maintain their life on earth.
Exoskeleton	An external supporting structure, such as the shell of a crustacean.
Invertebrate	**Invertebrates** are animals that do not have an internal skeleton.
Warm blooded	Animals that maintain a regular temperature.
Sample	A small amount of something to show what the whole of it may be like.
Vertebrate	**Vertebrates** are animals with **backbones** as part of an **internal skeleton.**
Classify	To put into groups according to similar features or characteristics.
Classification key	A system that places objects into groups using yes and no questions.
Cold blooded	An animal whose ody temperature changes with the environment it is in.

This is a pangolin. What group does it belong to? How can you tell?

Plants

Plants are split into 2 main parts: flowering and non-flowering.