St John's Primary School: Science knowledge organisers

Year group: Year 6

Science focus: Living things and their habitats

Key knowledge:

Deciding which animal or plant is which	
Key features to distinguish between the types of animals	• Invertebrate or Vertebrate • Mammal/ reptile/ fish/ amphibian/ bird • Colour • Length • Number of legs • Number of body segments • Distinguishing features • Habitat
Key features to distinguish between the types of plants	• Flowering or Non-Flowering • Grass/ garden shrub/ deciduous/ evergreen/ algae/ coniferous/ fern • Colour • Height • Number of flowers • Fruit bearing or not • Distinguishing features • Usual location

Possible experiences:

Compare animals from different habitats locally with animals in other areas in the UK and abroad.
Go on an animal hunt in the local area/ school grounds. What is the rarest animal? Which animal is the most common?
Design classification charts and lead another year group on a bug hunt using these charts to classify.

Key concepts:

Explaining	Giving reasons
Describing	Justifying
Classifying	

Key vocabulary:

Taxonomy	The part of science that focuses on classification
Classification	Grouping something using its features
Similarities	When a group of things have something in common/ the same
Differences	When a group of things all have something different
Distinguish	Recognising a difference
Microorganism	A tiny organism which can only been seen under a microscope e.g. bacteria

Diagrams:

Classification chart for animals living in the habitat of a pond