

Domain Scientists believe that there could be as many as 10 million different species on Earth!

Kingdom Scientists group living things according to their similarities and differences.

Phylum Carl Linnaeus was a Swedish scientist who is known as the 'father of taxonomy'. He developed a system for classifying all living things.—The Linnaeus Classification System.


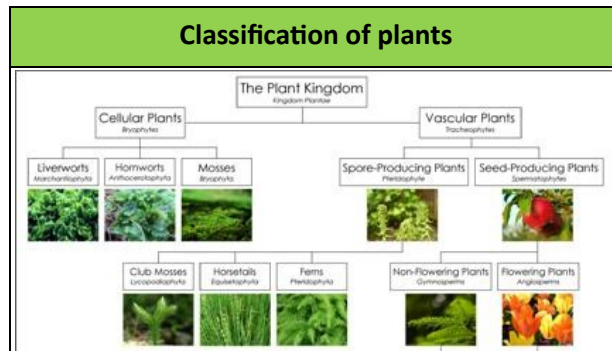
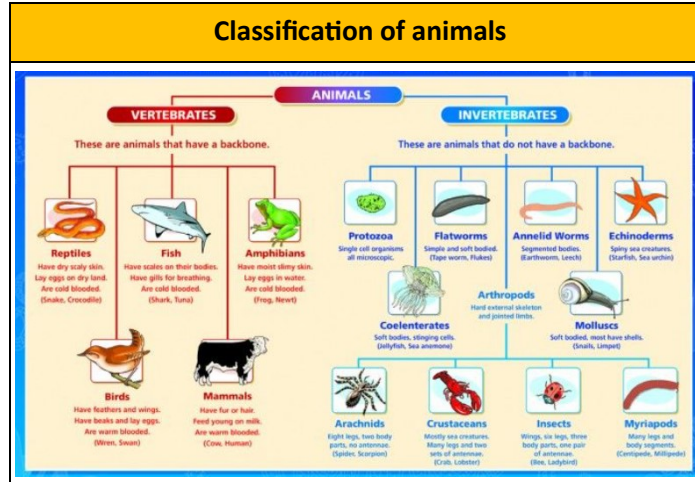
Class

Order

Family

Genus

Species

Microorganisms

Microorganisms are very tiny living things. They are so small that they are not visible to the naked eye, so a microscope is needed to see them. Microorganisms can be found all around us. They can live on and in our bodies, in the air, in water and on the objects around us. They can be found in almost every habitat on Earth.



Key vocabulary

classification	The arrangement of organisms into orderly groups based on their similarities and presumed evolutionary relationships.
taxonomy	The science of naming, identifying and classifying organisms.
species	A group of closely related organisms that are very similar to each other and are usually capable of producing offspring.
organism	An individual animal, plant or single-celled life form.
microorganism	An organism that is microscopic, making it too small to be seen by the human eye.
vertebrate	An animal that has a backbone (e.g. humans and birds)
invertebrate	An animal that does not have a backbone (97% of creatures belong in this group).

Knowledge objective	Self-assessment (✓)
I can describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals.	
I can classify animals into commonly found invertebrates (such as insects, spiders, snails, worms) and vertebrates (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals).	
I can give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.	