

I learned a bit about
this in Year 2!

Year 4 Science Knowledge Organiser

Living Things and their Habitats

Key Knowledge

Animals can be sorted into groups, this is called **classification**. The two main groups that animals are sorted into are **vertebrates** and **invertebrates**. A **classification key** can be used to help sort animals into groups.

Mammals are warm-blooded. They have hair or fur. They give birth to live young (meaning they do not hatch from an egg) and feed their off-spring milk. Humans are mammals.

Birds are warm-blooded. They have feathers, wings and a beak or bill. They lay eggs. Birds have hollow bones to make it easier to fly. (Although not all birds can fly!)

Reptiles are cold-blooded. They have dry, scaly skin and they lay eggs. Some reptiles have 4 legs and others have no legs. They live on land or in water.

Amphibians are cold-blooded. They can live on land or in water. They hatch from eggs. They can breathe using lungs or gills.

Fish are cold-blooded. They live in water and can breathe using gills. They usually have a scaly skin and fins to help them swim.

Insects are cold-blooded. They have a head, thorax, abdomen and no spine. They have 6 legs.

Key Vocabulary

Classification Key	A series of questions used to help work out which group an animal should be sorted into.
Vertebrates	A living thing that has a spine.
Invertebrates	A living thing that has no spine. They have no bones at all! These can be tiny things like mites or much larger like squid.
Environmental Factors	The things that can change which affect an animal's ability to live in their habitat. This can be natural change like the seasons or weather, or human changes like deforestation, building and burning of fuels.

Environmental Factors

