Science — Living Things and their Habitats, Lifecycles

	Key Vocabulary
amphibian	Animals such as frogs and toads that can live both on land and in water.
bird	A creature with feathers and wings. Female birds lay eggs. Most birds can fly.
classification	A system which divides things into groups or types.
ecology	The study of the relationships between plants, animals, people, and their environment, and the balances between these relationships.
environment	The particular natural surroundings in which you live or exist.
fish	A creature that lives in water, breathes with gill, and has a tail and fins.
food chain	Shows how each animal gets its food. One of the ways living things depend on each other.
food source	The place a living thing's food comes from.
habitat	The natural place something lives. It provides living things everything they need to survive such as, food, shelter and water.
invertebrate	A creature that does not have a spine, for example an insect, a worm, or an octopus.
mammal	Are animals such as humans, dogs, lions, and whales. In general, female mammals give birth to babies rather than laying eggs, and feed their young with milk.
microhabitat	A very small habitat in places such as under a rock, under leaves or on a branch. Minibeasts live in microhabitats.
nature reserve	An area of land that is protected and managed in order to preserve a particular type of habitat and its flora and fauna which are of- ten rare or endangered
reptile	Cold-blooded animals which have skins covered with small hard plates called scales and lay eggs.
vertebrate	A creature which has a spine. Mammals, birds, reptiles, and fish are vertebrates.

Key Facts

Living things use water and energy to grow and reproduce such as, trees and animals. Everything that lives will one day die and stop growing and reproducing. Some things have never lived such as rocks.

Living things are grouped in different ways. Animals are grouped into mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Classification keys and branching databases can help you identify living things.

Different animals and plants are suited to live in different habitats. These habitats provide a special environment for the animal or plant to live. They provide shelter, food, water and safety.

When environments change, this can cause problems for the living things living within that habitat.

Some animals eat plants for energy, and some animals eat other animals. Food chains show who eats who.

