Living Things & their Habitats

Grouping Animals

We can group animals into different groups based on their characteristics.

fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds

We can also group animals based on their diet.

omnivores, herbivores, carnivores

We can also group animals based on their bone structure.

vertebrates and invertebrates

Grouping Microorganisms

Microorganisms are **very small** living things. We can classify microorganisms into **five groups**.

viruses, bacteria, fungi, algae, protozoa

Grouping Plants

We can group plants based on how they disperse their seeds.

wind, explosion, animals, water

We can group plants on whether they grow a flower.

flowering or non-flowering

Linnaeus Classification

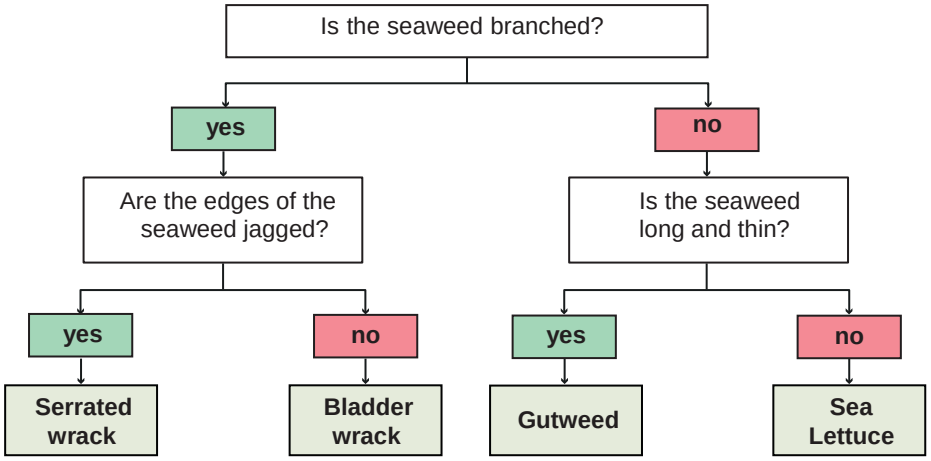
Carolus Linnaeus (also known as Carl Linnaeus) was a scientist who developed a detailed way to **classify** all living things known as a **taxonomy**.

His taxonomy helps us to determine what each living thing is. His scientific process involved **observing**, **recording** the information and making **conclusions**.

Classification Keys

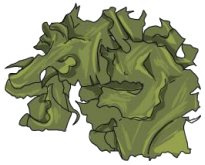
Classification keys usually have statements or questions that describe some of the **features** or **characteristics**. You have to answer either **yes** or **no**. Your answer will then take you to another **question** or **statement** OR the **type of living thing**.

This one looks at the **physical appearance** of **seaweed**.



Seaweed **A** is

Seaweed **B** is



Seaweed **C** is

Seaweed **D** is

Key Vocabulary

amphibians - an animal that is born in the water but develops lungs and lives on land later in its life
birds - a type of animal that has wings and is born from a hard-shelled egg
carnivore - a living things that just eats meat
characteristic - a feature or quality
classification - to categorise or group something
excretion - to dispose of waste
fish - a type of animal that lives in water and has scales, gills and fins
group - sorting things based on their similarities
growth - to get bigger
herbivore - a living thing that just eats plants
invertebrate - an animal that does not have a backbone
mammals - a type of animal that has hair on its body and usually drinks milk from its mother as a baby
movement - to change position
nutrition - the food we eat
omnivore - a living thing that eats both plants and meat
reproduce - to create more of the same species
reptiles - a type of animal that is cold-blooded and has scaly skin
respiration - taking in gas and giving out another (breathing in humans)
sensitivity - using your senses (see, smell, hear, touch, taste)
taxonomy - the scientific study of naming, defining and classifying groups of organisms based on shared characteristics
vertebrate - an animal with a backbone