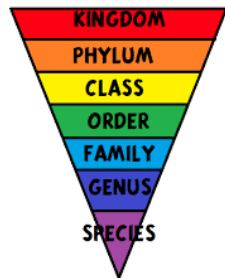


Classification

Who was Carl Linnaeus?

Carl Linnaeus was a Swedish Scientist (born in 1707) who believed it was very important to have a standard system of classification. At the time he was alive, in the 1700s, there was no agreed standard method. He became famous for creating a method of classification. This is known as taxonomy and is still the method used today.



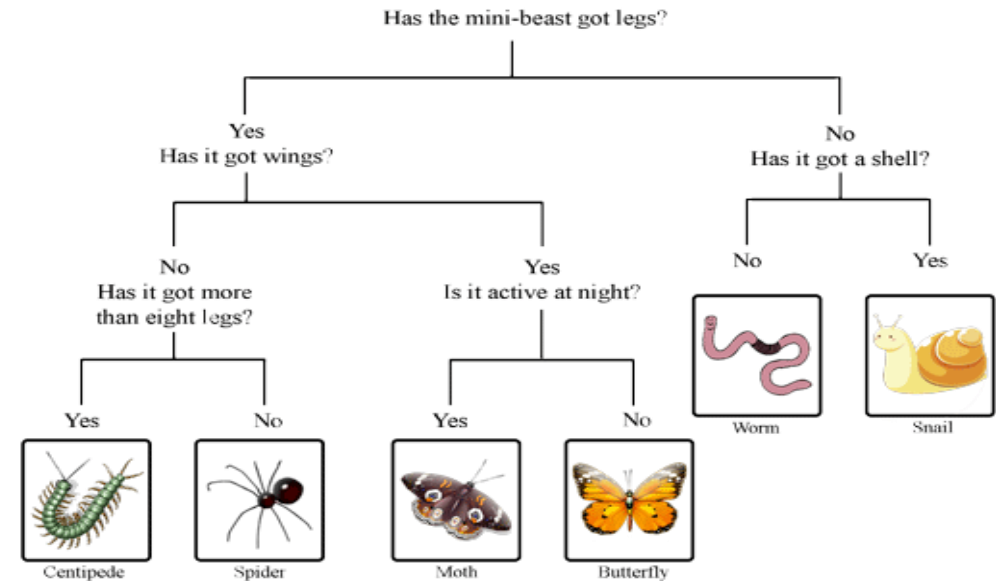
This image shows the 7 groups Carl Linnaeus created to classify living things.

Can you think of a mnemonic to remember the order of the classification groups.



Dear parents/carers,

This half-term in Science, Year 6 will be looking at classification. We will be classifying living things into broad groups based similarities and differences. We will also look at the Linnaean system of classification created by Carl Linnaeus.



Key vocabulary

Taxonomist—Someone who classifies living things.

Classification— a system used by scientists to describe organisms or living things. It is also known as taxonomy

Carl Linnaeus—was a Swedish taxonomist who created the Linnaean system for classifying living things.

Characteristics—a special quality or trait that makes a person, thing, or group different from others.

The Linnaean System—7 different groups to classify living things.

Invertebrate—Living things that do not have a spine (backbone).

Vertebrates—Living things that have a spine (backbone)

What is a Classification Key?

A classification key is a series of questions that determine an organism's physical characteristics. When you answer one question, it either branches off to another question or identifies the organism. Ultimately, they help to identify an unknown organism, or work out how to categorise groups of similar organisms. Remember the questions need to be open ended—this means it is either a yes or no answer.