

Science Y2 Spring 1 – Living things

In this unit of work the children will find out what the terms living, dead and never been alive mean. They will sort a variety of objects into these 3 categories and give reasons for their choice. They will investigate what the term 'basic needs' and 'survival' mean by imagining themselves stranded on a desert island and thinking about what will keep them alive. They will use a flow chart to classify what is dead or alive

In this unit children will

- **Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive**
- **Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans for survival (water, food and air)**
- Understand what is meant by the term living, dead and never been alive.
- Sort pictures into the 3 groups living, dead and never been alive.
- Compare things that are living, dead and never been alive
- Know what the term 'basic needs' means for both humans and other living creatures
- Understand that sometimes we 'need' things for happiness but they are not essential
- **Classify what is dead and alive (using a flow chart)**

Prior Learning

FS Explore the natural world around them

Year 1 Naming a variety of common living animals such as fish, reptiles, birds and mammals. Identifying and labelling parts of the human body and the associated senses.

Cross Curricular Links

Maths – Sorting and grouping

Geography – The United Kingdom is an island

History - Timelines

Key Vocabulary

Living – Living things represent the key characteristics of life. They all show movement, reparation, sensitivity, nutrition, excretion, reproduction and growth.

Dead – Something that was once living, but is no longer showing the characteristics of life.

Never been alive – Something that has never shown any of the characteristics of life.

Compare – To look at the similarities and differences.

Basic needs – The things you need to keep you alive.

Survival – When a human or animal continues to live.

Essential – It is extremely important

Non- essential – It is not important

Key Knowledge

- There are things which are living, dead and those which have never been alive.
- There are 7 key characteristics of living things – movement, reparation, sensitivity, nutrition, excretion, reproduction and growth.
- Dry leaves which are on the ground are dead but were once alive on a tree.
- Bones were once part of a living animal, but are now dead.
- Anything metal, plastic or stone has never been alive.
- The basic needs for animals, including humans for survival is water, food and air.
- Knowing what you want, for survival and knowing what you need, for survival are very different.
- Things which you want are to make you comfortable and happy, but are non-essential.
- Things what you need are essential to keep you alive.
- What animals need for survival may be similar or different to what humans need depending on the animal.
- Mammals give birth to babies.
- Reptiles, birds lay eggs which hatch.



- Animals start as young life, get older, bigger and can go on to have children of their own. This is called a life cycle.
- One of the most amazing lifecycles in nature is the lifecycle of a butterfly. It starts as an egg, hatches into a caterpillar, builds a chrysalis around itself and then will hatch as a butterfly.

Key Questions

- Can you name something that is dead, alive and has never been alive?
- What is essential to survive?
- What would you need if you were stranded on a desert island?
- What would you want if you were stranded on a desert island?
- How do these things differ?