



Year 2 Science: What is in your habitat?

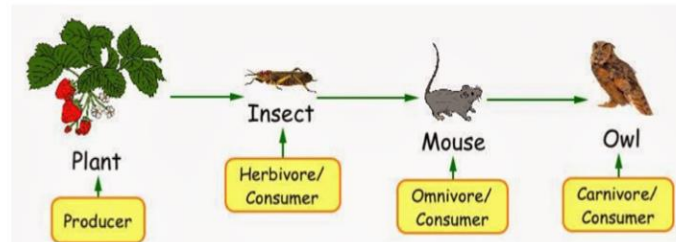
During this unit, we learn about different habitats and why animals and other living things are suited to that habitat. We identify things that once lived, never lived and are living. We explore food chains and life cycles. We develop our observation skills, gathering evidence and suggesting answers to questions.

What I Already Know

I can name animals and animal groups. I know that animals eat different types of food. I can name parts of animal bodies e.g. scales, webbed feet.

Key Questions

- What is in your habitat?
- What do different animals eat in their habitats?
- Where can I live?
- How do animals change?
- Are all off-spring the same as their parents?
- What do all living things do?



The food chain of an owl.

Key Vocabulary

habitat	A habitat is the natural environment or home of a variety of plants and animals. Animals and never-lived things depend on each other for basic survival needs.
living	Anything that is currently alive.
once lived	Was once a living organism, or part of one, but is now dead, for example wood.
never lived	Has never been a living organism, or part of one, for example metal.
decay	The rotting of matter through the action of bacteria and fungi.
food chain	When organisms are dependent on each other for food.
carnivores	An living thing which only eats other animals.
omnivores	Meat and plant eaters.
herbivores	An animal that only eats plant.
Predator	An animal that preys on another animal.
life cycle	The series of changes in the life of an organism from birth to death.

Common Misconceptions

Seeds are classed as living, as they are able to germinate and grow in the right conditions. Berries and fruits that contain seeds are also classed as living. Children may not realise that wooden, painted things were once living. Children may link animals from different habitats to form food chains because knowledge of habitats is limited. Arrows in a food chain signifies "eaten by", not what that animal eats. This is linked to the idea of passing energy.

Key Facts

- Two main habitats are land and water.
- Land habitats include forests, deserts, grasslands and mountains.
- Rainforests support the habitats of most animals and plants on Earth.
- Salt water habitats are different to fresh water ones.
- A microhabitat is a very small particular habitat, such as under a log.

Essential Information

Plants are producers and make their own food using sunlight.

Animals depend on other food sources, so are known as consumers.

A food chain shows how one animal depends on another.

The direction of the arrow in a food chain is important. It means "eaten by".

Once lived is something "dead". It used to be living.



Useful Websites

Food chains:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/science-ks1-the-food-chain/zbr8d6f>

Exploring habitats:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zx882hv>

Home Learning Suggestions

Make an owl box for your garden.

Conduct a bird watch survey in your garden.

Go for a walk with an adult. How many different habitats can you spot? Which plants and animals live there?



Recommended Reading

Welcome Home Bear by Il Sung Na

The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

Are You My Mother? By Julia Donaldson

Better Move On Frog by Ron Harris

