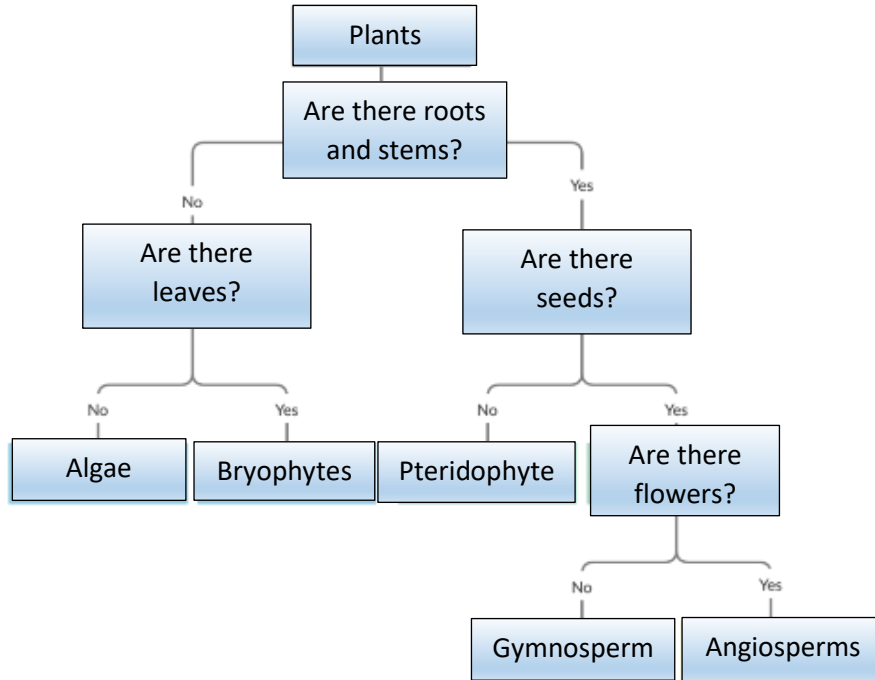


Year 6 Key Knowledge Fact sheet – Living things and their habitats: classifying living things.

Things which can grow, move, breathe and reproduce are called living **things**. All living things can be classified depending on specific characteristics. All living things are categorised into either animals, plants or microorganisms. Classifying helps to organise living things according to their characteristics and new discoveries can be identified using a dichotomous key.



An example of a dichotomous key which can be used to classify many organisms.

Subdivisions

Arthropod

Crustaceans Spiders



Microorganisms

Bacteria Virus



Key Vocabulary.

Amphibians – Cold-blooded. Born with gills like fish but grow and develop lungs and live on land.

Arthropods - Invertebrate animals having an exoskeleton, and segmented body e.g. crabs or shrimps.

Birds – Have feathers and are born on land from hard-shelled eggs. Not all birds can fly but all birds do have feathers.

Fish – Live in water, have gills, scales and fins on their body. They are cold blooded.

Invertebrates - Animals that don't have a backbone inside their body.

Mammals - Warm blooded animals. Can live on land or in the sea. Can inhabit all areas of the world

Microorganisms - Microorganisms are living things that are too small to be seen with the naked eye. They are normally viewed using a microscope.

Plants – Living organism such as trees, grasses and flowers. Can make their own food through photosynthesis.

Reptiles – Have scaly skin that protect their body. They are cold blooded.

Subdivision - This is how we can divide things down into smaller groups so they are easier to classify.

Vertebrates – These are animals that have a backbone inside their body.