Science: How do animals behave at different times during the year? (Living things and their habitats)

Key vocabulary

mammal, amphibian, insect, bird, metamorphosis, tadpole, nymph, pupae, chrysalis, caterpillar, migrate, hibernate, courtship, plumage, habitat, adaptation, behaviour, young, chick, life cycle, egg, pupae, adult, butterfly, nectar, death rate, nest, brood, fledgling, juvenile, diet, migration, resident, invertebrate, mollusc, worm, snail, woodlouse, centipede, beetle, aphid, adaptation, predator, prey, survival, habitat

Working Scientifically

Reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations.

Recording data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, and bar and line graphs.

Must-know knowledge

Living things are suited to their environments. This suitability is in part because of their physical adaptations, and also because of their behaviour patterns and life cycles.

The behaviours of living things are important because they help to reduce the level of competition with other organisms and behavioural patterns are more easily seen in animals.

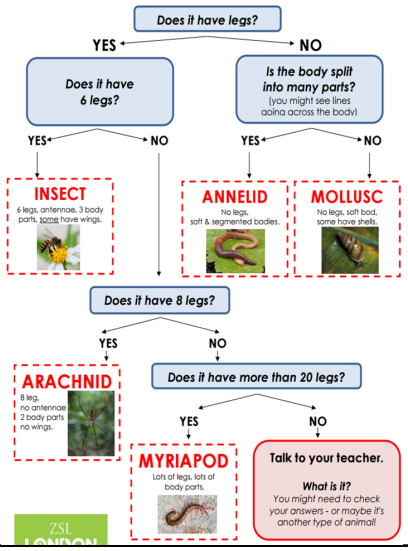
The ways in which animals reduce the risk of being eaten by predators include both physical and behavioural adaptations. For example, camouflage, being nocturnal or moving very fast).

The interactions between organisms contribute to their survival and in some cases the interaction is beneficial. For example, by providing a habitat or source of food to one or both of the organisms, but in other situations the interactions are harmful, like predation and competition.

The scientific understanding of changes in the populations of living things and their behaviours has improved with the developments of technology.

Improved understanding of how and why organisms live as they do has also come from combining well-planned observations with controlled experiments and tests.

Diagram: Classification key



Our experiments:

Step 3 – Classify animals

Step 5 – Microorganisms