

Key knowledge

Organisms are classified into five kingdoms (large groups).

The two main ones are:

Animal Kingdom - Organisms who hunt or seek out food.

Plant Kingdom - Organisms that create their own food using photosynthesis.

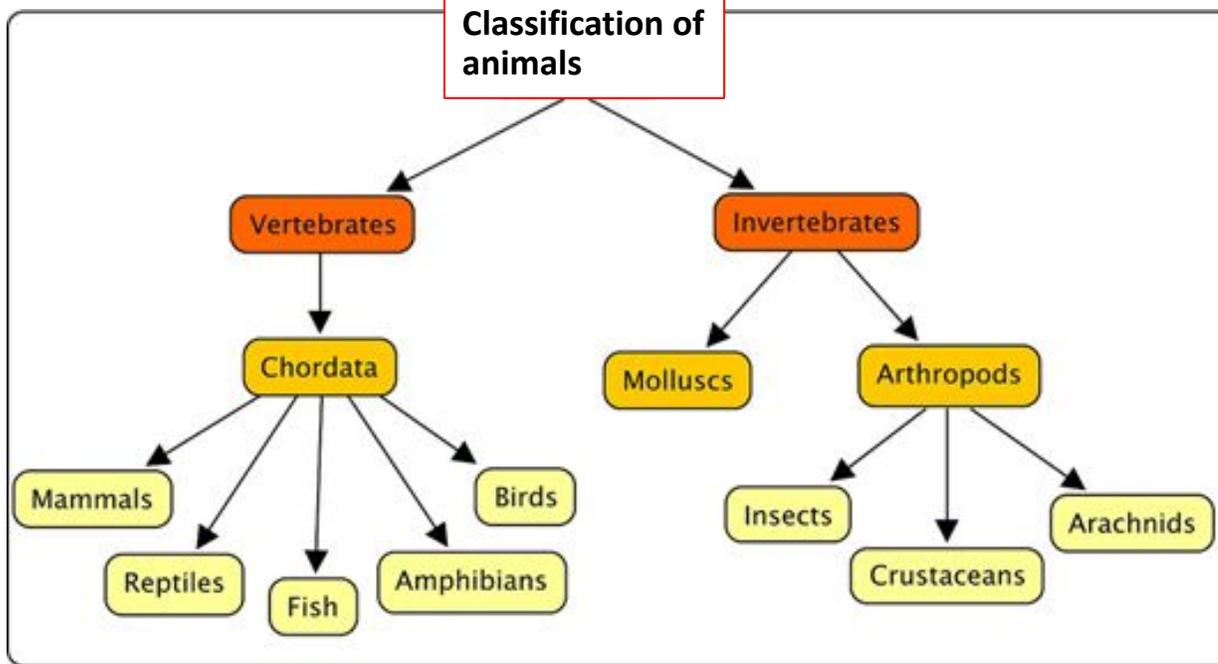
Other living things such as fungi and microorganisms are organised into other kingdoms.



Year six science Classifying plants and animals



Classification of animals



insects

A small animal that has six legs, 3 body segments and generally one or two pairs of wings eg butterflies, beetles, bees, moths, flies



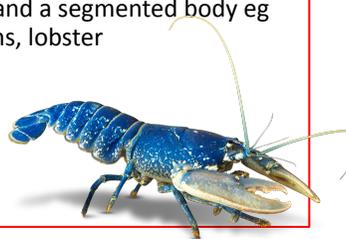
arachnids

A small animal that has eight legs and a body formed from two segments eg spiders



crustaceans

Mostly live in water with a hard shell and a segmented body eg prawns, lobster



Al-Jahiz was a Muslim pioneer born in 776AD. He started by selling fish and had a very curious mind. He went on to work on animal classification, food chains and evolution and is often thought as the father of the theory of evolution.



Carl Linnaeus was a **taxonomist** who lived in the 18th century. He **classified** animals and plants. He gave all animals and plants a two-word latin name so that all scientists could identify them.

Key vocabulary

taxonomy	The part of science focused on classification
taxonomist	A scientist who sorts living organisms.
classification classified	Grouping something using its features
characteristic	Characteristics are features of living things which help scientists classify them
Dichotomous questions	Have only two possible answers eg yes or no
distinguish	Recognise a difference
organism	Living thing
Vertebrate or chordata	An animal with a backbone
invertebrate	An animal with no backbone
arthropods	An invertebrate with a jointed body with a skeleton on the outside of its body
micro-organism	Small living things including bacteria and yeast
Exo skeleton	Hard outer casing which supports and protects the body of some invertebrates.
key	A key is a series of question about the characteristics of living things. A key is used to identify a living thing or decide which group it belong to by asking dichotomous (yes or no) questions.