Plants and animals rely on the **environment** to give them everything they need. Therefore, when **habitats** change, it can be very dangerous to the plants and animals that live there.

**•** deforestation  
 **•** pollution  
 **•** urbanisation  
 **•** the introduction of new animal or   
 plant species to an environment  
 **•** wildfires  
**•** the seasons

**G**rowth  
**R**eproduction  
**E**xcretion  
**N**utrition

**M**ovement  
**R**espiration  
**S**ensitivity

When a species has no more members alive on the planet, it is **extinct**.

The specific area or place in which particular animals or plants may live.

The process by which living things get rid of waste products.

The process through which young are produced.

The way living things react to changes in their **environment**.

The things living things do to stay alive.

This is another word that can be used to mean ‘living things’.

environment

habitat

nutrition

excretion

reproduction

sensitivity

respiration

life processes

organisms

extinct

A plant or animal where there are not many of their species left and scientists are concerned that the species may become **extinct**.

An **environment** contains many **habitats** and these include areas where there are both living and non-living things.

The process of obtaining food to provide living things with energy to live and stay healthy.

A process where plants and animals use oxygen gas from the air to help turn their food into energy.

endangered species

To stay alive and healthy, all living things need certain conditions that let them carry out the seven **life processes**:

**•** earthquakes   
 **•** storms  
 **•** floods  
 **•** droughts  
 **•** wildfires  
**•** the seasons

Changes to an **environment** can be natural or caused by humans. Changes to an **environment** can have positive as well as negative effects. Here are some examples of things that can change an **environment**.

Human-Made

Natural

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **St Austin’s R.C. Primary School - Science** | | |
| **Topic: Living Things and their Habitats** | **Year: 4** | **Strand: Biology** |

**Life Processes**

**Key Vocabulary**

Animals can be grouped in lots of different ways based upon their **characteristics**.

You could sort **invertebrates** you might  
see around school in different ways, such as in this example. The vast majority of living things on the planet are **invertebrates**.

**Invertebrate Classification** Key

You can use **classification** keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things. Here is an example of a **classification** key:

**Vertebrates** can be separated into five broad groups.

invertebrates

vertebrates

Plants can be sorted into many different groups. For example:

The distinguishing features or qualities that are specific to a species.

A particular plant or animal that scientists study to find out about its species.

characteristics

specimen

vertebrates

Animals without a backbone.

invertebrates

Animals with a backbone.

This is where plants or animals are placed into groups according to their similarities.

classification

**Year 4**

**Living Things and Their Habitats**

**Key Vocabulary**