

# How are living things grouped ?

**vertebrate** - a creature with a spine (backbone)

**invertebrate** - a creature with no spine (backbone)

**classification key** - is a method people use to identify organisms or objects in the natural world, such as plants, animals, or rocks.

**Endangered species** - animals at threat of being extinct in the wild

**omnivore** - an animal which eat food from plants and animals

**carnivore** - an animal that eats other animals

**herbivore** - an animal that eats plants

**prey** - an animal/creature that is hunted for food by another

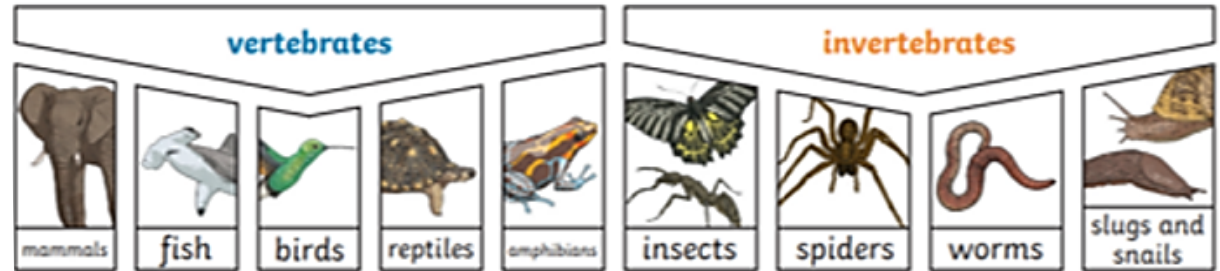
**predator** - an animal/creature that hunts and kills.

Humans are now responsible for causing changes in the environment that hurt animals and plant species. We take up more space on Earth for our homes and cities. We pollute habitats. We illegally hunt and kill animals.



## Big Ideas

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



MR FAB is an easy way to remember the 5 groups of vertebrates !

**M**ammals **R**eptiles **F**ish  
**A**mphibians **B**irds

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**.

Animals can also be grouped based on their feeding patterns ( what they eat )



Herbivores: Animals that only eat plants

• Carnivores: Animals that only eat meat



Omnivores: Animals that eat both plants and meat

A **classification key** is a set of questions about the features of a living thing that can be used to identify it.

