

# KEY INFORMATION AND FACTS

## KEY VOCABULARY

**vertebrate** Animals that have a backbone.

They can be divided into 5 groups: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.

**fish** - cold-blooded - scales covering its body - has fins - lives in water, lays eggs in water - breathes through gills

**amphibian** - cold-blooded - start as eggs in water and breathe through gills - later develop lungs and live on land and in water - lays eggs in water - damp skin/body

**reptile** - cold-blooded - breathes with lungs - dry, scaly skin - lay soft-shelled eggs on land

**bird** - warm-blooded - breathes with lungs - lays eggs with hard shells - covered with feathers - have wings but not all can fly

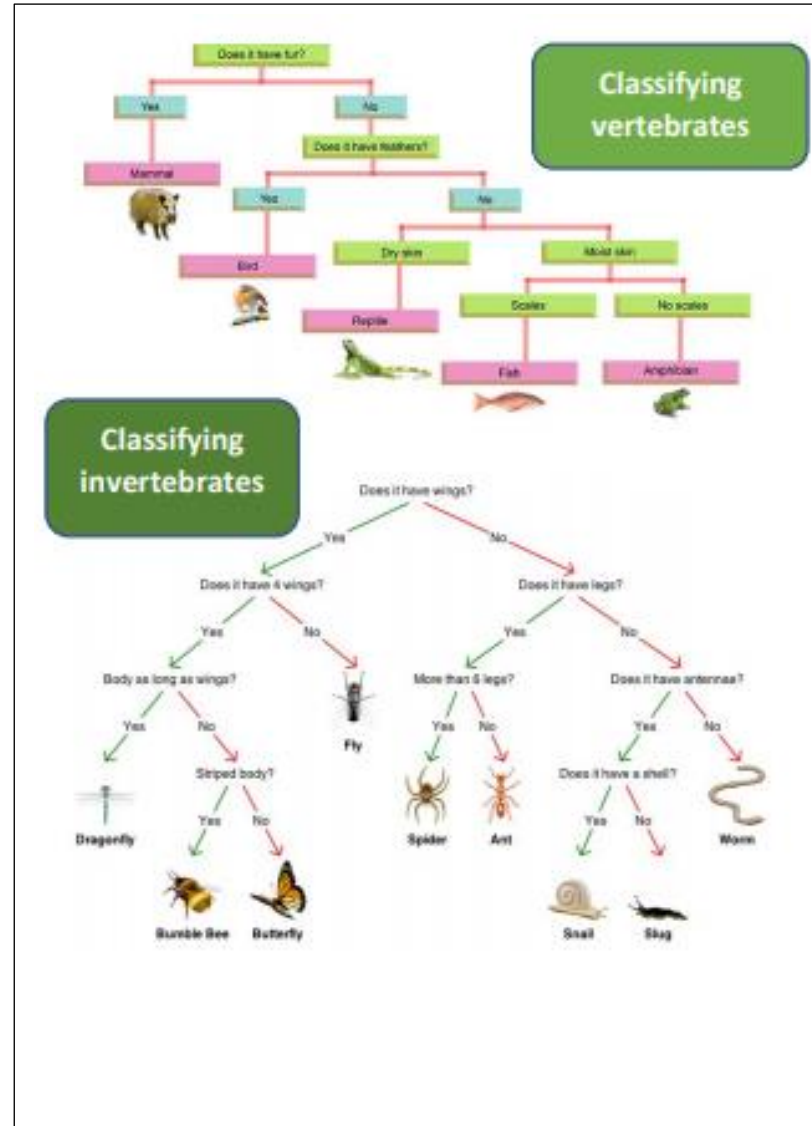
**mammal** - warm-blooded - have fur or hairy skin - give birth to live young - feed their young milk

**invertebrate** Animals that do not have a backbone. Can be divided into several groups including insects, spiders, snails and worms.

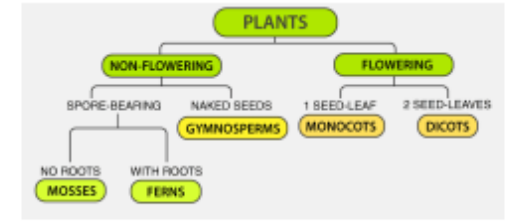
**plants** Can make their own food. They can be divided broadly into two main groups: flowering plants and nonflowering plants.

**Classification** Living things can be classified into broad groups according to observable characteristics that are similar or different.

**Micro-organisms** These are tiny living creatures. Most can only be seen through a microscope. They can be sub-divided into smaller groups including bacteria, fungi and viruses.



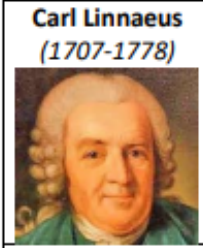
## Classifying Plants



**Flowering plants** – numerous and diverse group. Reproduce through flowers and seeds. E.g. sunflower

**Non-flowering plants** – smaller group. They have a simple structure and do not have flowers or seeds. They reproduce through spores. E.g. algae, mosses

## Significant scientists



**Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778)**  
Carl Linnaeus was a Swedish scientist who developed the modern system of classifying and naming organisms. Before this the names of living things were often very long. He gave them a two-part name.



**Chris Nelson**  
Chris Nelson is a horticulturist and a director of Growing Underground which uses hydroponic techniques to grow pesticide-free crops in a former London underground air-raid shelter.