PARK HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

IN TRUTH IS FREEDOM

YEAR 4 LIVING THINGS AND THEIR HABITATS KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

KEY VOCABULARY AND SPELLINGS

Vertebrate – animals which have a backbone/spine

Invertebrate – animals which do not have a backbone/spine

Classification – grouping living things by looking at similarities and differences

Habitat – where a plant or animal lives

Environment – the surroundings or conditions in which an animal or plant lives

Deforestation – the action of clearing a wide area of trees

CHARACTERISTICS OF LIVING THINGS – MRS GREN

All living things do these 7 life processes:

Movement – moving, can be fast and obvious or slow and over time

Respiration – releasing energy from food

Sensitivity – responding to their environment

Growth – getting bigger and older

Reproduction – producing offspring

Excretion – getting rid of waste

Nutrition – taking in food

5 VERTEBRATE GROUPS

Vertebrate	Characteristics
Fish	Scales, live in water, cold-blooded, lay eggs, gills
Amphibians	Smooth skin, live in water and land, cold-blooded, lay eggs
Reptiles	Scales, lay eggs, cold-blooded, lungs
Mammals	Hair or fur, warm-blooded, live births, lungs
Birds	Feathers, warm-blooded, lay eggs, lungs

CHANGING ENVIRONMENTS

NATURAL CHANGES – different seasons can change habitats. As the weather changes so can the plant life of the habitat. Look at the area around you, do you notice different plants and possible different animals at different times of the year?

HUMAN CHANGES – How humans live and what they do can impact habitats both negatively and positively.
Negative ways:

- Deforestation - cutting down trees for a range of reasons
- Littering – dropping rubbish or leaving large objects lying in the environment
- Pollution – introducing harmful substances into the environment.

Positive ways:

- Protecting endangered species via conservation projects
- Cleaning bodies of water
- Recycling

CLASSIFICATION KEYS

A set of yes or no questions about the characteristics of living things.

They are used to group and sort animals and plants.

Answer the questions and follow the Lines depending on whether the answer is yes or no.