Year 2 - Science

NC Unit: Living things and their habitats

Can living things stay healthy and live forever? **Biology**



What should I already know?

- Which things are living, dead and things which have never been
- The names of some common plants and types of trees.
- Some animals are suitable to be kept as pets but others are not.
- All animals need water, air and food to survive
- Animals can be grouped into vertebrates and invertebrates
- Animals can be grouped into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores
- Animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into
- Different vegetation belts and biomes around the world.

Big Ideas this works towards:

• The different kinds of life, animals, plants and microorganisms, have evolved over millions of generations into different forms in order to survive in the environments in which they live.

Vocabulary				
biomes	a natural area of vegetation and animals			
carnivore	an animal that eats meat			
depend	If you depend on someone or something, you need them in order to be able to survive physically			
food chain	a series of living things which are linked to each other because each thing feeds on the one next to it in the series			
habitat	the natural environment in which an animal or plant normally lives or grows			
herbivore	an animal that only eats plants			
invertebrate	a creature that does not have a spine, for example an insect, a worm, or an octopus			
microhabitat	a small part of the environment that supports a habitat, such as a fallen log in a forest			
minibeast	a small invertebrate animal such as an insect or spider			
offspring	a person's children or an animal's young			
omnivore	person or animal eats all kinds of food, including both meat and plants			
plant	a living thing that grows in the earth and has a stem, leaves, and roots			

What will I know by the end of the unit?

What is habitat?

- A habitat is a place where living things, such as animals and plants, can find all of the things they need to **survive**. This includes food, water, air, space to move and grow and some shelter.
- Some habitats are large, like the ocean, and some are very small, such as under a log.
- Some **habitats** in our local area include the river and woodlands. Other habitats include the coast and the forest.



















What is a microhabitat?

- Microhabitats are very small habitats where minibeasts may live.
- Examples of **microhabitats** include under stones, in grass, under fallen leaves and in the soil.
- Minibeasts that can be found there include worms, snails, ants, centipedes, millipedes, and butterflies and they help to keep the microhabitat healthy.
- Minibeasts are able to survive in their habitats because they can find the things they need to survive there, such as food and water. For example, caterpillars can survive on leaves as they give them food.









foxes

How do animals and plants depend on each other?

- Animals and plants depend on each other to survive. For example, worms depend on plants because they feed on dead leaves, but plants depend on worms who make the soil healthy by digging holes and allowing air
- Birds also need worms because they eat them. Worms are a **source** of food for birds.
- This called a food chain.

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• If there were no worms, there would be less birds as there would be more competition for food. The soil would not be as healthy without worms.



• All living things (or things that were once living) have a part to play in food chains. Without them, other animals and plants may not be able to survive.