Classifying Animals

Adaptation
Animals & Plants
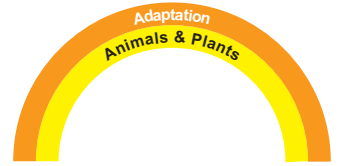
Learning Intention

- To sort creatures according to concepts: appearance, reproduction, diet and habitat.

National Curriculum Skills

Science – Communicate clearly using relevant science vocabulary.

ESDGC – The natural environment.

Activity Outline

✱ Children to read and match statements to creatures.

✱ Children to negotiate/exchange information between groups.

✱ Classify creature appropriately.

✱ To develop own keys for each coloured statement.

Resources

Illustrated creature card

Sets of colour coded statements for each creature –
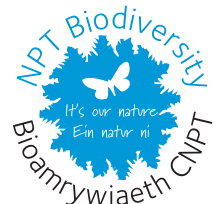
Red: breeding habits

Blue: appearance

Green: place in the food chain

Back: habitat/location

Classification sheet -insect, mollusc, myriapod, reptile, bird and mammal

Blank key for each statement

NPT Biodiversity
It's our nature
Ein natur ni
Bioamrywiaeth CNPT

Classifying Animals

Lesson Outline

- Split the class into groups of four.

- Display illustrations of each creature and give one to each group.

- Explain there are four colour coded statements to accompany each picture.

- Share out all the statements (jumbled up) between the children. Each group to have four statements only.

- Each pupil is given one of these statements.

- The group must try to match the clues to their creature.

- They will need to exchange/negotiate with other groups to find all four clues for their creature (marketplace activity).

- Once all four clues have been collected, children use the classification sheet to classify their creature.

- Once completed, children reread the statement cards and decide on their own headings for each coloured statement (organising information sheet).

Woodland Classification

Mollusc

Molluscs have soft bodies and live in a shell.
They have one foot for moving.
Most molluscs live in

What does the information tell us?

How does it reproduce? ☐ (red)

What does it eat? ☐ (green)

What does it look like? ☐ (blue)

Where does it live? ☐ (black)

I lay around 30 eggs in a hole in the ground or under logs or leaf litter.

I live in moist areas and I like to hide under tree bark, fallen logs and rocks.

I eat dead leaves, fungus and decaying plant matter. Some species eat live plants.

I am covered in a layer of thick mucus which helps to keep me moist.

I lay 4 to 7 light blue eggs in a nest of twigs and moss.

I am quiet and secretive and like to spend time among hedgerows and undergrowth in woodlands.

Some gardeners dislike my love of buds, berries and seeds!

I have a stout black bill and a black cap. Males have a bright pink chest.

My eggs are sticky and are rolled into the soil as they are laid.

I need a habitat which is moist so there is no danger of me drying up!

I use my speed to catch woodlice, spiders, beetles and many other insects.

I have one pair of legs on each segment of my body (between 15 and 101 pairs in UK species).

I lay around 30 eggs in a hole in the ground or under logs or leaf litter.

I live in moist areas and I like to hide under tree bark, fallen logs and rocks.

I eat dead leaves, fungus and decaying plant matter. Some species eat live plants.

I am covered in a layer of thick mucus which helps to keep me moist.

I give birth to live young.

I prefer a humid habitat, and you might find me on the edges of woodland.

After rainfall or after dusk I come out to hunt on slow-moving prey such as slugs, snails, spiders, insects and earthworms.

Although you might think I am a snake, I am actually a legless lizard.

I lay my eggs underground. Each egg is laid with its own 'packed-lunch' of dung!

I build a deep burrow under big piles of dung.

I eat my own weight in dung everyday!

I have large spiky front legs, specially adapted for digging.

I have around 4 young per litter.

I live in woodlands and hedgerows, particularly those containing Hazel.

I eat fruit, berries, flowers, nuts and insects.

I have soft orange-brown fur and a long tail.

Mollusc

Molluscs have soft bodies and many of them live in a shell.

They have one foot for moving.

Most molluscs live in water.

Mammal

Most mammals have hair or fur.

All mammals have warm blood.

All mammals give birth to live young.

Mammals produce milk.

Insect

Insects have an exoskeleton.

They have three segments to their bodies.

They have 6 legs and compound eyes.

Reptile

They have skin covered in scales.

Most reptiles lay eggs.

They breathe air.

Myriapod

They have a single pair of antennae.

They range from having over 750 legs to fewer than 10 legs.

They have segmented bodies.

Birds.

All birds are warm blooded.

Birds have feathers.

All birds lay eggs.

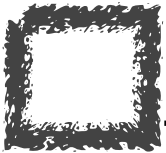# What does the information tell us?

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

What does the information tell us?

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____