

Science



Living Things and their Habitats

- The study of living things is called taxonomy.
- A taxonomist is someone who classifies living things.
- The first recorded classification system was created by Aristotle, who grouped living things into either plants or animals.
- Aristotle grouped plants based on their stem size.
- Carl Linnaeus is known as the father of taxonomy as he created a classification system based on genetics and similar characteristics.
- The modern classification system includes 7 levels: kingdom, phylum, classes, order, families, genus, and species.
- The modern classification system has five kingdoms: Animalia, Plantae, Protista, Monera and Fungi.
- Animals are further broken down into vertebrates and invertebrates.
- Vertebrates include fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.
- Invertebrates include worms, annelids, molluscs, arthropods, insects and arachnids.
- Monera, Protista and Fungi are micro-organisms.
- A micro-organism is an organism that cannot be seen by the naked eye.
- Micro-organisms can be helpful as well as harmful.

Key words:

Taxonomist – a person who studies the classification of living things.

Classification – the action or process of classifying (grouping) something.

Monera – a single cell organism lacking a membrane.

Protista – a single cell organism with a membrane.

Micro-organism – a microscopic organism that cannot be seen by the naked eye.