

Key Vocabulary	
<b>Pollution</b>	Pollution is rubbish that makes our environment dirty. It harms our environment.
<b>Damage</b>	The harm that plastic rubbish is doing to the surroundings and environment.
<b>Environment</b>	The conditions around something.
<b>Disintegrate</b>	When something breaks down into very small pieces over time.
<b>Organisms</b>	This is another word that can be used to mean 'living things'.
<b>Classification</b>	This is where plants or animals are placed into groups according to their similarities.
<b>Characteristics</b>	The distinguishing features or qualities that are specific to a species.
<b>Habitat</b>	The specific area or place in which particular animals or plants may live.
<b>Micro-plastic</b>	Extremely small pieces of plastic debris in the environment

Making links to previous Learning
I know what plastic is.
I know what rubbish is.
I know what recycling is.

### Life Processes

To stay alive and healthy, all living things need certain conditions that let them carry out the seven **life processes**:

<b>Movement</b>	<b>Growth</b>
<b>Respiration</b>	<b>Reproduction</b>
<b>Sensitivity</b>	<b>Excretion</b>
	<b>Nutrition</b>

Animals can be grouped in lots of different ways based upon their **characteristics**.

vertebrates					invertebrates			
mammals	fish	birds	reptiles	amphibians	insects	spiders	worms	slugs and snails

**Vertebrates** can be separated into five broad groups.

You can use **classification** keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things. Here is an example of a **classification** key:

**Invertebrate Classification Key**

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graph TD
    Q1[Does it have legs?] -- yes --> Q2[How many legs does it have?]
    Q1 -- no --> Q3[Does it have a segmented body?]
    
    Q2 -- many legs --> W[woodlouse]
    Q2 -- 8 legs --> Q4[Does it have an oval body?]
    Q2 -- 6 legs --> Q5[Does it have wing cases?]
    
    Q4 -- yes --> W
    Q4 -- no --> S[spider]
    
    Q5 -- yes --> H[harvestman]
    Q5 -- no --> Q6[Does it have a long, thin body?]
    
    Q6 -- yes --> E[earthworm]
    Q6 -- no --> Q7[Does it have a segmented body?]
    
    Q7 -- yes --> L[larvae]
    Q7 -- no --> Q8[Does it have a shell?]
    
    Q8 -- yes --> S
    Q8 -- no --> SL[slug]
    
    Q6 -- very short legs --> M[millipede]
    Q6 -- pincers on its tail --> EW[earwig]
    Q6 -- long, thin body --> C[caterpillar]
    Q6 -- ant --> A[ant]
  
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## Year 4 Term 5 How does our use of plastics affect the environment?

### The Lifecycle of Plastics

Plastic bag 20 years	Coffee cap 30 years	Plastic straw 200 years	6-pack plastic rings 400 years
Plastic water bottle 450 years	Coffee pot 500 years	Plastic cup 450 years	Disposable nappy 500 years
Plastic toothbrush 500 years			

The world is being severely impacted by the amount of plastic we throw away each year. We need to be the generation to stop this and provide a better future for generations to come!

- Plastic pollution – this is when plastic is where it shouldn't be! It's in the sea, on the beach and it is causing harm.
- Micro-plastic in the ocean is consumed by plankton which, in turn, becomes part of our food chain.
- We're using more plastic than ever due to it being durable and cheap to produce.
- There could be more plastic in the ocean than fish by 2050.
- Plastic is a risk to the lives of birds and animals that live in our seas (e.g. whales, dolphins and turtles)
- At least 8 million tons of plastic enter the oceans each year. That is about the same as 1345 blue whales.
- Plastic takes a long time to break down. A plastic bottle can last for 450 years in the marine environment, slowly fragmenting into smaller and smaller pieces which eventually end up microscopic but never really go away. This means that every piece of plastic that has ever been produced is still with us...Yuck!

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