

# Year Two

## Living Things and Their Habitat

### Key Learning

All objects are either living, dead or have never been alive. Living things are plants (including seeds) and animals. Dead things include dead animals and plants and parts of plants and animals that are no longer attached e.g. leaves and twigs, shells, fur, hair and feathers (This is a simplification appropriate for Year 2 children.)

An object made of wood is classed as dead. Objects made of rock, metal and plastic are classed as never been alive (ignoring that plastics are made of fossil fuels).

Animals and plants live in a habitat to which they are suited, which means that animals have suitable features that help them move and find food and plants have suitable features that help them to grow well. The habitat provides the basic needs of the animals and plants – shelter, food and water.

Within a habitat there are different micro-habitats e.g. in a woodland – in the leaf litter, on the bark of trees, on the leaves. These micro-habitats have different conditions e.g. light or dark, damp or dry. These conditions affect which plants and animals live there. The plants and animals in a habitat depend on each other for food and shelter etc. The way that animals obtain their food from plants and other animals can be shown in a food chain.

### Key vocabulary

Living, dead, never been alive, suited, suitable, basic needs, food, food chain, shelter, move, feed

Names of local habitats e.g. pond, woodland etc.

Names of micro-habitats e.g. under logs, in bushes etc.

### Common misconceptions

Some children may think;

- an animal's habitat is like its 'home' ,
- plants and seeds are not alive as they cannot be seen to move,
- fire is living,
- arrows in a food chain mean 'eats'.

