Gunthorpe Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

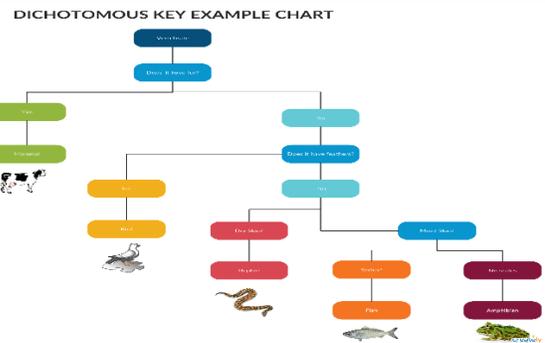| **Science Focus:** Living things and their habitat	**Year 6:** Autumn Term 2

Key Knowledge (What?)

Grouping living things

Animals can be put into one of two groups:	Vertebrates or invertebrates
Vertebrates can be grouped 5 ways:	Fish, Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds, Mammals.
Fish:	Breathes with gills, lays eggs in water, has fins and scales, its body temperature changes.
Amphibian:	Born with gills then develops lungs, lays eggs in water, damp skin, body temperature changes.
Reptile:	Breathes with lungs, lays eggs on land, dry scaly skin, body temperature changes.
Bird:	Breathes with lungs, lays eggs with hard shells, has feathers, steady body temperature.
Mammal:	Breathes with lungs, babies are born live, body hair or fur, steady body temperature, feeds babies milk.
Invertebrates can be grouped 5 ways:	Insects, Arachnids, Molluscs
Insects:	3 body sections and 6 legs.
Arachnids:	2 body sections and 8 legs.
Molluscs:	Slimy foot and often have a shell.
Distinguishing features between animals:	Invertebrate or vertebrate / mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird / colour / length / number of legs or body segments / distinguishing features / habitat.
Distinguishing features between plants:	Flowering or non-flowering / grass, cereal, garden shrub, deciduous, algae, coniferous, fern / colour / height / number of flowers / fruit bearing or not / distinguishing features / usual location.

Key Knowledge (What?)

Key Scientists

3 facts about Carl Linnaeus:	Born in Sweden on 23rd May 1707. A leading light in the field of taxonomy. Developed the first system to classify animals effectively.

Key Knowledge (What?)

Diagram / Image

DICHOTOMOUS KEY EXAMPLE CHART

Key Vocabulary

Spelling	Definition	
Fish	Reptile	Arachnid
Mammal	Amphibian	Insect
Arachnid	Molusc	Habitat
Distinguish	Recognise a difference	
Key	A series of choices that lead the user to the correct name of a given item.	
Vertebrates	Animals with a spine.	
Invertebrates	Animals without a spine.	
Endoskeleton	An internal skeleton (mammals)	
Exoskeleton	A rigid external covering of the body (mollusc)	
Classify (classification)	Arrange (a group of people or things) in classes or categories according to shared qualities or characteristics.	
Flowering	Capable of producing flowers and seeds for reproduction.	
Non-flowering	Does not produce flowers and uses seeds and spores for reproduction.	
Taxonomy	The part of science focused on classification.	
Dichotomous	To divide into two parts.	
Dichotomous Key	A **dichotomous key** is a tool that allows the user to determine the identity of items in the natural world.	

Possible Experiences

- Locate a range of habitats on the school site.
- Compare animals from different habitats locally, in other areas of the UK and abroad.
- What is the rarest animal / plant on the school grounds?
- Design charts for another year group to use on a big hunt around the school grounds.