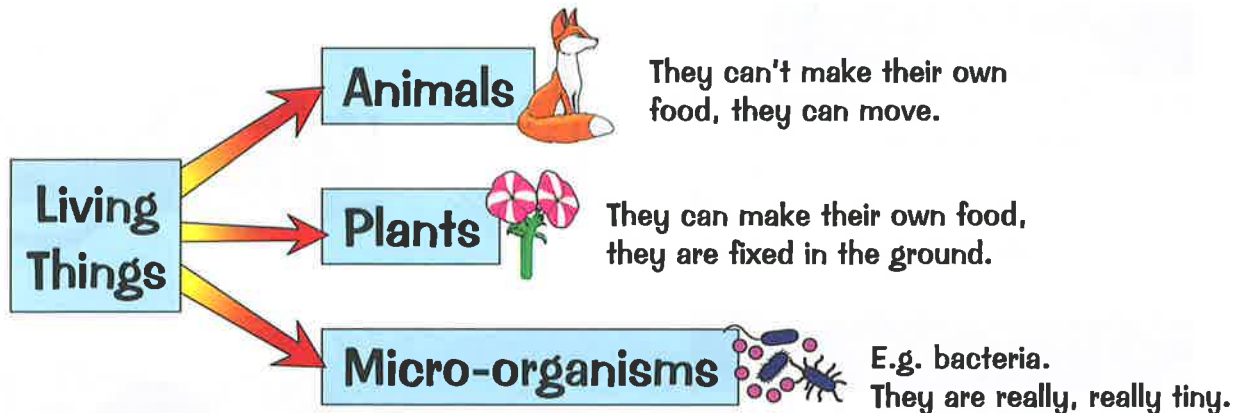


Grouping Living Things

There are so many **different** plants and animals on Earth that scientists need to divide them up into **groups** to help **identify** them.

Living Things can be put into Groups

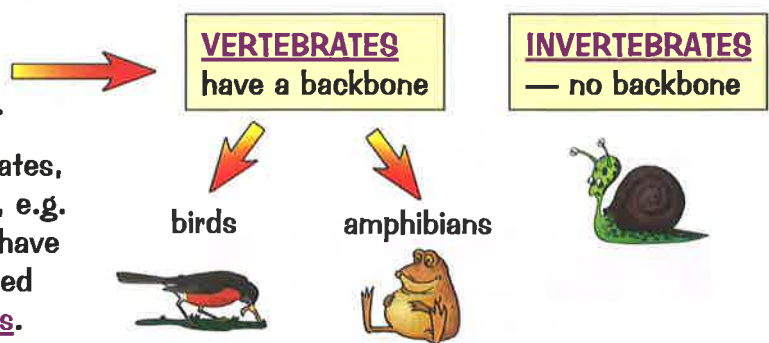
- 1) All living things have **features** that we can see (like legs, flowers or fur).
- 2) Scientists look for **similarities** and **differences** between their features.
- 3) Then they put living things into **groups** based on features they have in **common**.
- 4) There are **three** main groups — animals, plants and micro-organisms.



- 5) Putting living things into **groups** in this way is called **classification**.
- 6) You can use the **features** that different animals, plants and micro-organisms have to keep on dividing them up into **smaller groups**. For example:

Animal Groups

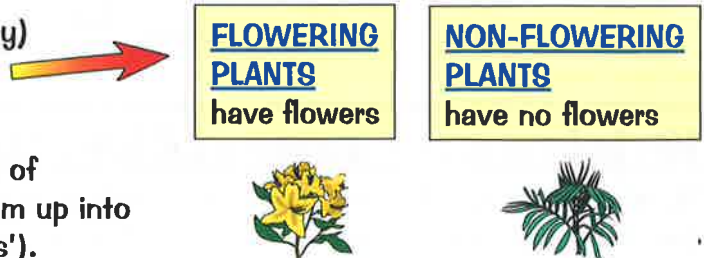
- 1) Some animals have backbones (spines) and some don't. So you can make **two more groups**.



- 2) If you look closer at the vertebrates, they have **different** features too, e.g. robins have feathers, but toads have damp skin. So robins are grouped as **birds** and toads as **amphibians**.

Plant Groups

- 1) Some plants have flowers (very pretty) and some don't. This means we can make **two more groups** for plants.



- 2) Then there are lots of **different** types of flowering plants, so you can split them up into **more groups** (like 'trees' and 'grasses').