

Classifying Organisms : Science : Year 6

	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 1	To recap ways of grouping organisms according to their characteristics.	Children will learn about some of the broad groups used to classify animals, then identify, sort or describe organisms within those groups according to some of their characteristics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know that organisms can be grouped according to their characteristics? Can children describe the characteristics of different classifications of animals? Can children match animals to their group according to their characteristics? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 1A/1B Classification Key Animal Cards A/B Challenge Cards A/B (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 2	To explore ways of distinguishing between organisms that have similar characteristics.	Children will consider ways in which animals which belong to the same broad group can be distinguished and further classified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children classify organisms according to broad characteristics? Can children find ways to distinguish between organisms that are similar? Can children use appropriate scientific vocabulary to describe organisms and their features? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 2A/2B Insect Cards Bird Cards Mammal Cards Flowering Plant Cards A/B (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 3	To be able to classify plants according to their characteristics.	Children will learn some ways in which plants are classified by botanists, then take photos, collect samples, or research, then classify plants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know that plants can be sorted into groups according to their characteristics? Can children explain the difference between vascular and non-vascular plants? Can children explain the difference between flowering and non-flowering plants? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 3A/3B/3C/3D Plant Cards - optional Digital cameras - optional Plant books, access to internet, etc.
Lesson 4	To find out about Carl Linnaeus and his classification system.	Children will learn about the development of Linnaeus' classification system, then use it to help them identify, classify, and answer questions about a number of different organisms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know who Carl Linnaeus is and how he contributed to science? Do children know that animals can be assigned to specific groups based on their characteristics? Can children give reasons for why classification systems are important? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 4A/4B/4C Animal Classification System - Examples of Reptiles Animal Classification System - Examples of Mammals Animal Families sheets (FSD? activity only) Question Sheet (FSD? activity only) Challenge Card (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 5	To explore what micro-organisms are and how they can be grouped.	Children will learn about some ways in which micro-organisms are classified, and what they need to survive. Following this, they may either write in-depth about micro-organisms, or conduct an experiment to determine what food a micro-organism prefers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know what micro-organisms are? Do children know that micro-organisms can be classified into groups? Do children understand that some micro-organisms can be harmful and others can be helpful? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 5A/5B/5C/5D Yeast Experiment Sheet (FSD? activity only) Equipment and ingredients as listed on the Yeast Experiment sheet (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 6	To be able to identify and classify organisms in the local area.	Children will either look at a local environment, or study one in another country. They will identify and classify organisms in that environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children identify a variety of different organisms found in their local environment? Can children classify a variety of organisms appropriately? Can children use a variety of sources of information to identify organisms they are unfamiliar with? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 6A/6B Classification Cards Clipboards Magnifying glasses Digital Cameras Books, internet, posters, etc