Project glossary

adaptation
A change in appearance or behaviour that allows a living thing to survive better in its habitat.

air
The mixture of gases in the atmosphere that living things breathe.

amphibian
An animal that has moist skin and lives on land and in water.

animal
A living thing that belongs to one of the groups in the animal kingdom: amphibians, birds, fish, invertebrates, mammals or reptiles.

bird
An animal that has feathers, two wings, two legs and a beak.

camouflage
The ability to hide or blend in with the surrounding habitat.

carnivore
An animal that only eats meat.

excretion
A life process by which living things get rid of waste material.

fish
An animal that lives in water and has scales, gills and fins.

food
Something that animals eat and plants make in their leaves from sunlight that keeps them alive.

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food chain
A diagram showing the feeding relationship between living things where energy in the form of food is transferred from one living thing to another.

growth
A life process by which living things increase in size over time.

habitat
A place where plants and animals live.

herbivore
An animal that only eats plants.

identify
To recognise something and say what that thing is.

invertebrate
An animal that has no backbone, or spine, and is often small and has a soft body. Some have a hard covering or shell.

living
A plant or animal that is alive because it grows, breathes, eats, moves, senses its environment, gets rid of waste and has offspring.

mammal
An animal that has fur or hair and four limbs.

mimicry
When a living thing copies the appearance or behaviour of another animal, plant or object.

movement
A life process by which living things change position.

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non-living
Something that is not alive, so it cannot grow, breathe, eat, move, sense its environment, get rid of waste and have offspring.

nutrient
A substance that plants and animals need to grow, live and stay healthy.

offspring
The young of an animal or plant.

omnivore
An animal that eats both meat and plants.

plant
A living thing that usually has roots, stems, leaves and flowers.

predator
An animal that hunts, kills and eats other animals.

prey
An animal that is hunted and killed for food by another animal.

quill
A long, sharp spine found on some animals, such as porcupines.

reproduction
A life process by which living things produce offspring.

reptile
An animal that has dry, scaly skin and either four legs or no legs.

respiration
A life process by which living things breathe.

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sensitivity
A life process by which living things use their senses to understand and react to the environment.

shelter
A place that gives protection from weather or dangers.

soil
A mixture of dead and decayed plants and animals, air and rock particles that cover the ground.

space
An area that is empty and available.

temperature
How hot or cold something is.

thorn
A spiky, woody growth on a stem.

warning colouration
A prey's bright colours used to warn predators that they are dangerous or unpleasant to eat.

water
A clear liquid that all animals and plants need to stay alive.

woodland
An area covered with trees.

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Scientific terms glossary

block graph
A type of graph that uses blocks or rectangles to show different amounts.

compare
To look at two or more things closely and see what is the same or different.

data
Collected information or facts, including numbers, words, measurements or observations.

describe
To say aloud or write how something is done or what something is like.

diagram
A drawing with labels that shows the parts of something.

equipment
An object or objects needed for a particular purpose, such as a hand lens, ruler or thermometer.

investigation
An activity that involves a person studying a subject or problem carefully to learn facts or answer a question. An investigation includes a planning, doing, recording and reviewing stage.

observe
To watch or look at something carefully.

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prediction

A statement made by a person where they say what they think will happen in the future, using their knowledge or experiences.

question

Something we ask using the words how, what, where, when, who and why.

record

To write down data, such as numbers, words, measurements or observations in different ways, such as lists, tables, charts or labelled diagrams.

results

The data collected from an investigation or test.

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