

Key Vocabulary

Characteristics: features of a living creature which are used to identify them.

Classification: ordering living things into groups based on their similarities.

Evolution: The way that living things change over time.

Fossils: A fossil is the preserved remains or traces of a dead animal or plant.

Classification Key: Questions that can help decide which group a living thing belongs to.

Microorganisms: very small living creatures (magnification is needed to view)

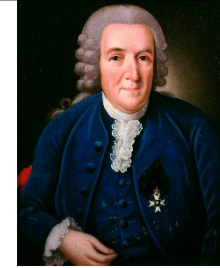
Offspring: When living things reproduce, their young can be called offspring.

Species: Groups of plants and animals that are very similar to each other and can produce offspring.

Variation: The differences between species of plants and animals.

Important Scientists:

Carl Linnaeus: was a Swedish scientist who created the classification of living things system that we use today. (See diagrams below.)

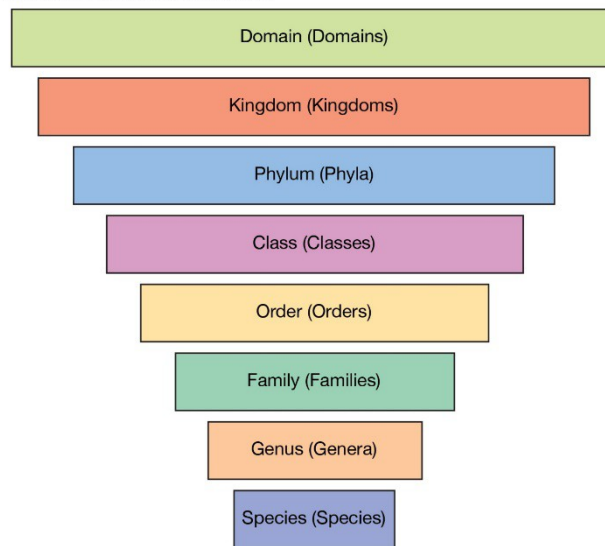


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How animals are classified



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Animal Classification Key

