

Year 2 Science - Living things and their habitats



What should I already know?

- Animals live in different places due to its suitability.
- Animals need food, water and air to survive.
- Identify a range of different weather conditions.

Key Knowledge and skills gained

- Habitats are places where animals and plants live which help them to survive.
- **Urban habitat** are streets and cities. Most people in Britain live in an urban habitat. Urban habitats are areas with lots of buildings for people to live and work in. Flowering plants such as nettles, daisies, dandelions and buttercups grow in parks, gardens and hedges. Some animals, such as squirrels and garden birds, get their food from the trees and hedges that grow in cities. Other animals like foxes, pigeons and rats are able to live in cities because they get most of their food from the waste that people leave behind.
- In a woodland habitat there are lots of trees that grow. The fallen leaves provide food and shelter for many creatures and rot into the soil, making it rich and full of nutrients. As well as the fallen leaves, there are shrubs, flowers and grasses beneath the trees. These provide a home for many insects and invertebrates like worms, slugs and snails. The fruit and seeds of the trees, and the small creatures that live among the leaves, provide food for many birds and small mammals such as bats, mice, squirrels, stoats and weasels. Bigger mammals such as badgers, foxes and deer are common in woodland.
- Pond habitat: plants like water lilies, hornwort and duckweed live in the water. Other plants like irises and marsh marigolds grow in the damp soil near the pond's edge. These plants provide food and shelter for worms, slugs, snails, and insects like damselflies, dragonflies, mayflies and water beetles. Amphibians like frogs, toads and newts eat the small creatures, and in turn, these are eaten by mammals like bats and water voles. Many birds live near the water, including ducks, moorhens and kingfishers.
- Coastal Habitat: The plants here have adapted to grow in salty, windy conditions. These include samphire, juniper, sea kale, glasswort and marram grass. Many of the creatures that live in coastal areas survive in rock pools left by the tides, like barnacles, mussels, crabs and starfish. Wading birds such as oystercatchers, plovers and sandpipers feed on these creatures, while seabirds like seagulls, kittiwakes, gannets and skuas mainly eat fish from the sea. Dolphins, porpoises and even whales can be seen in the waters around the coast. Seals and otters spend most of their lives in the sea but come to the land to rest and care for their babies.

Key Vocabulary and definitions

Vocabulary	Definition
Habitat	Homes for plants and animals.
Survival	Continuing to live or exist.
Basic needs	Needs that are important to survival.
Climate	Weather: hot, warm, cold, wet, damp, dry.
Suitability	How right something is for example fish live in water.
Environment	The surroundings.
Micro-habitat	A very small habitat.







