

Classification

Significant Scientist

Dr. Louise Leakey



CDr. Louise Leakey is a Kenyan paleontologist who studies fossils of early humans and animals. She classifies different species and teaches us how living things are related over time. Her work helps scientists understand evolution, traits, and how to organise living things.

Key Knowledge

Classification means to group living things based on similar characteristics. A classification key can be used.

We classify something as living or non-living according to the following characteristics: Movement, Respiration, Sensitivity, Growth, Reproduction, Excretion and Nutrition.

Scientists have organised living things into five broad groups called kingdoms: plants, animals, fungi, protest and prokaryote.

Kingdoms are then organised into a further six levels of classification: Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus and Species.

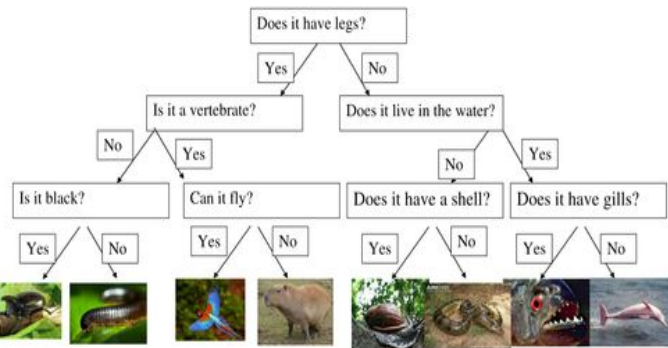
Micro-organisms are microscopic organisms grouped into three distinct categories: bacteria, virus and fungi.

Some bacteria can be helpful/beneficial for our health and some can be harmful to our health.

Harmful bacteria can be stopped from spreading.

Key Vocabulary

characteristic	Any feature that helps to identify an organism.
classification	A way of grouping things based on similar characteristics.
classification key	A series of questions with yes/no responses about an organism's physical characteristics.
organism	A living thing made up of one or more cells and able to carry on the activities of life (e.g. using energy, growing, or reproducing).
micro-organism	A microscopic organism.



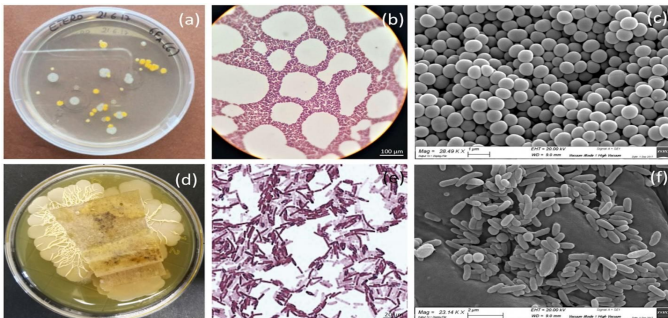
Enquiry Skills

Observing over time

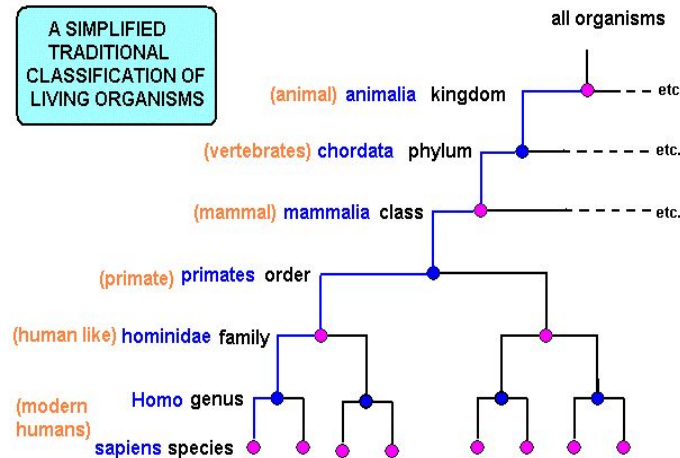
Grouping and classifying

Fair testing

Pattern seeking



A SIMPLIFIED TRADITIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF LIVING ORGANISMS



Working Scientifically Skills

- Plan
- Measure
- Fair test
- Report data – scientific diagrams, labels, bar graphs and line graphs.
- Present – conclusions, casual relationships, explanations.

ANIMAL CLASSIFICATION

