

SCIENCE · Y2–Y5

Habitats & Ecosystems

Knowledge Organiser — Y2–Y5

Key vocabulary

1

Habitat

The place where an animal or plant lives naturally — providing shelter, food, and conditions to survive.

Example: woodland, coral reef, tundra

2

Ecosystem

A habitat and all the living organisms within it, plus the non-living parts (water, air, temperature, soil).

3

Food chain

Shows what eats what in a habitat. Always starts with a producer (plant); arrows show energy transfer.

Example: grass → rabbit → fox

4

Food web

A network of interconnected food chains in an ecosystem. More realistic than a single food chain.

5

Producer

A plant — makes its own food through photosynthesis. All food chains start here.

Example: grass, oak tree, seaweed

6

Consumer

An animal that eats producers or other consumers. Primary consumer eats plants; secondary consumer eats animals.



7

Predator

An animal that hunts and eats other animals.

Example: fox, eagle, shark

8

Prey

An animal that is hunted and eaten by a predator.

Example: rabbit, field mouse, small fish

9

Decomposer

Breaks down dead organisms and returns nutrients to the soil.

Example: fungi, bacteria, earthworms

10

Adaptation

A feature that helps an organism survive in its habitat.

Example: thick fur for cold; camouflage; hollow bones for flight

