

Online science activities for Classification and Habitats

Lesson 5 - Hello year 4! We are starting a new topic today.

I hope you are ready to find some wildlife? All the tasks are in **RED**. You will need plain paper, a pencil and a camera (if you can!).

This topic is all about comparing animals and putting them into groups, if they have something in common with each other.

Here are two animals: **Look at the pictures carefully.**



This is a centipede, commonly found in heathland or even your garden!

And this is a bumble bee – also found in your gardens in the summer.



What do they have in common?

How are they different?

If we can answer these two questions we can decide if they should be in the same group or a different one from each other.

Just have a think about them for a minute. What do you know about them?

Let's LOOK at a table of things that are the same (similarities) and things that are different (differences).

Comparison of a bumble bee and a centipede:

Questions for each animal	Bumble Bee	Centipede
Does it have a backbone (spine)?	no	no
Does it have wings?	yes	no
Does it have legs?	yes	yes
Does it have 6 legs?	yes	no
Does it have 3 parts to the body? Head, middle and tail section.	yes	no
Do they have antenna on their head (feelers?)	yes	yes

So although they have SOME things in common and they are both INVERTEBRATES (animals without spines) and both ARTHROPODS because they have legs, they are not from the same GROUP of invertebrates arthropods.

A bumble bee is an INSECT because it has wings, three body parts and 6 legs.

But a centipede is a MYRIOPOD because it has two body sections (a head and trunk) and lots of pairs of legs (between 15 and 177 pairs depending on its size).

Now don't be too worried about all these new words, we will learn them over time. Today we are going to call all the creatures in your garden that do not have a spine an INVERTEBRATE and start with that word!

So let's go and have a look for invertebrates in your garden.

If you don't have a garden you could go out for a walk to do some exercise and have a look then, with your parents. (Don't go out alone!)

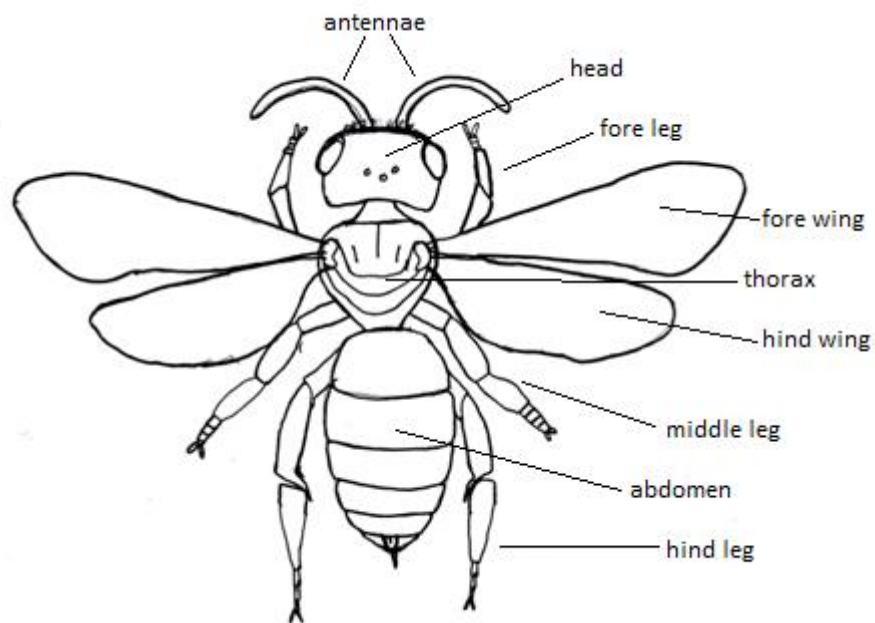
Maybe you have a balcony with some plant pots and you can look in there?

I want you to take some pictures of what you find if you can. You don't need to pick them up, just look carefully at them. If you do pick them up, remember to return them carefully to the same place. Try and remember where you saw each animal. Was it under a log? (HINT: good place to look!) In the grass? By/in a pond? These are habitats, the place where the animals live. Fill in the table with a list of what you found and where you found them when you get back from your expedition! You can change the headings if the habitat was different.

HABITATS eg grass, under a log, oak tree	In the grass	Under a log	By water	Under a stone
Invertebrates found				

Now pick ONE invertebrate that you really liked the look of and carefully draw it, in as much detail as you can. You can use your photos to help you. This is a scientific drawing, so it should only be a pencil outline of all the shapes, stripes or spots but NO shading or colour. Then draw straight lines from the animal's body and label the body parts at the end of the lines.

Here is an example of a scientific drawing of a bee:



I hope you make the drawing as detailed as possible! I can't wait to see them all.