

Characteristics of living and non-living things and examine the differences...

compare characteristics of living and non-living things and examine the differences between the life cycles of plants and animals

Learning intention

- compare characteristics of living and non-living things and examine the differences between the life cycles of plants and animals

Teach and model

- classifying a collection of objects as living, once living or non-living and explaining their reasoning
- observing and describing differences between metamorphic (such as butterflies, beetles or frogs) and non-metamorphic life cycles of animals, including humans
- comparing the physical characteristics of an animal such as a frog or moth with its activity at different stages of its life cycle

Check understanding

- Explain the main idea in characteristics of living and non-living things and examine the differences... using an example.
- Show the idea in a second way: with words, a model, a diagram or symbols.
- Apply the idea to a short unfamiliar situation and justify the result.

Teaching cautions

- Ask the student to explain their choice, not only state an answer.
- Check that key vocabulary is understood in a new example.
- Mix representations so the skill is transferred rather than copied.

Quick lesson sequence

- Connect to prior knowledge and introduce the key vocabulary.
- Model one clear example, then solve a second example together.
- Finish with an independent check and a short student explanation.