

Investigate the role of classification in ordering and organising the...

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Learning intention

- investigate the role of classification in ordering and organising the diversity of life on Earth and use and develop classification tools including dichotomous keys

Teach and model

- observing and identifying the similarities and differences of particular features within and between groups of organisms
- creating and modifying a dichotomous key to classify organisms into groups and groups within groups
- naming and classifying species using scientific conventions from the Linnaean hierarchical classification system, such as kingdom, phylum, class, order, family...

Check understanding

- Explain the main idea in investigate the role of classification in ordering and organising the... 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.