Living and non-living things

We will learn…

Some things are living (alive) and some things are non-living (have never been alive). Some things are dead (was alive, but is no longer).

Every living thing needs certain things to stay alive. The need movement, reproduction, sensitivity, nutrition, excretion, respiration and growth. We use the name 'MRS GREN' to help us remember the seven things needed for living things to stay alive.

A plant is a living thing that grows in the earth and has a stem, leaves and roots. Plants take in oxygen through tiny holes on the underside of their leaves. Plants and animals live their own areas. A habitat is the natural environment in which an animal or plant normally grows. Animals and plants need each other to survive. They depend on each other.

Key vocabulary:

Living	Something that is alive. Trees and animals are living things.
Non-living	Something that has never been alive. Water, rocks and fire are all non-living things
Dead	Living things that are no longer alive are dead. Dry leaves on the ground are dead.
Movement	Living things can move or change position.
Respiration	Most living things need oxygen.
Sensitivity	Living things respond to changes in their environment. For example, they might react to a loud noise.
Growth	Living things grow and get bigger over time.
Reproduction	To make a copy of something. Animals make babies.
Excretion	To get rid of waste.
Nutrition	Living things need to take in and use nutrients for energy and growth.

Investigations:

- ✓ What do livings things need to survive?
- ✓ Can we identify living and non-living things?

Inspirational Scientist

Jane Colden – botanist

Characteristics of living things

Movement
Respiration
Sensitivity

Growth
Reproduction
Excretion
Nutrition

MRS GREN

Working scientifically

In this topic we develop the following practical skills:

- Ask simple questions and answer in different ways
- Observing closely, using simple equipment
- Identifying and classifying
- Use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions