

Nova's Garden Classification Key

Learning objective: To use a classification key to identify living things by answering yes or no questions.

Hello! Nova the owl needs your help. Look at the animals in your garden or park. Use this template to create a key. Follow the steps below to sort the animals. Ask a 'Yes or No' question to split your group into two. Remember to use the word bank to help you spell your answers.

Word bank: vertebrate · invertebrate · legs · wings · feathers · fur · scales · question · classification

1. Step 1: Choose two different animals. Write their names here and one question that separates them (e.g., 'Does it have wings?'). (2 marks)

2. Step 2: If the answer is YES, which animal is it? Write what features it has. (2 marks)

3. Step 3: If the answer is NO, which animal is it? Write what features it has. (2 marks)

4. Step 4: Think of one more question to add to your key to sort another animal. What will you ask? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you add a third animal to your key? Draw a branching line to show where it fits in your classification system.