

Classifying Creatures with Nova the Owl

Learning objective: To use a classification key to identify living things by their features.

Follow the prompts below to write your own guide for identifying animals. Use the word bank to help you write your sentences.

Nova the owl loves to sort animals into groups by looking at what makes them different.

Word bank: has · does not have · features · group · if · then · question · because · classification

1. Introduction: What is a classification key? A classification key is... (2 marks)

2. The First Question: What is the first question you could ask to sort animals? My first question is... (2 marks)

3. Sorting Features: List two features you could use to sort animals. One feature is... Another feature is... (2 marks)

4. Conclusion: Why do we use keys? We use classification keys to help us... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you draw a simple flow chart showing how to sort a fish, a bird, and a mammal?