

# Nova's Classification Field Journal

*Learning objective: To describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals.*

Help Nova the owl identify a living thing you have found in your garden or local park. Research the organism's traits and fill in the boxes below to classify it correctly. Use the word bank to help you describe its features.

*Word bank: Vertebrate · Invertebrate · Micro-organism · Mammal · Amphibian · Reptile · Flowering · Non-flowering · Characteristic · Classification · Species*

**1. Organism Name and Habitat: Describe the creature or plant you have chosen and explain where it prefers to live. (2 marks)**

---

---

**2. Classification Group: Is it an animal, plant, or micro-organism? Which specific group does it belong to (e.g. mammal, insect, fern) and why? (3 marks)**

---

---

---

**3. Key Characteristics: List three physical features that help you identify this organism. Think about its shape, size, or body covering. (3 marks)**

---

---

**4. Comparison: How is this organism different from other living things in the same group? Think about its diet or how it reproduces. (3 marks)**

---

---

---

---

**5. Scientific Reflection: Why is it useful for scientists like Nova to classify living things into groups rather than studying them one by one? (4 marks)**

---

---

---

*Extension challenge: Research a micro-organism, such as yeast or bacteria. How does its classification differ from the animal or plant you studied in this journal?*