

Glossary

Alike: Acting or looking the same.

Animal: A single living thing. Also, the name of a group, or kingdom, of living things.

Antenna (plural, antennae): A long, thin feeler on the head of some animals.

Aquarium: A water-filled glass or plastic container in which fish and water plants can live and be observed.

Backbone: The bone that supports an animal's back.

Bess beetle: A large black beetle.

Body: The main part of a plant or an animal.

Brainstorm: To share ideas on a topic. People often brainstorm to solve a problem.

Cabomba: A plant with very small, fluffy green leaves that lives in water.

Communicate: To share information and ideas through speaking, writing, or drawing.

Compare: To look at two or more things to see how they are alike or different.

Container: Something that holds other objects. Jars and boxes are containers.

Data: Information.

Describe: To use words to explain how something looks, feels, or acts.

Different: Not the same.

Elodea: A plant with pointed, dark-green leaves that lives in water.

Experiment: A procedure that is carried out to investigate a scientific question.

Fair test: A test that compares two or more things by keeping everything the same except the thing being compared. A race is a fair test. Everyone starts at the same place and at the same time and ends at the same place. The only thing that is different is the speed of the runners.

Flower: The part of a plant that makes seeds. Flowers are also called blossoms.

Fresh water: Water that does not contain salt. Fresh water is in ponds, rivers, and lakes.

Graph: A diagram used to show the relationship between things.

Grow: To become bigger.

Guess: To give an idea about something when you are not sure.

Guppy: A small fish that lives in fresh water.

Head: The top or front part of the body of an animal.

Human: Word used to describe a man, woman, or child.

Insect: A small animal that has three body parts and six legs. Most insects also have wings. Examples are flies, bees, and beetles.

Investigate: To study something closely and in an organized way.

Leaf: The part of a plant that grows out of a stem or branch.

Length: The distance from one end of something to the other.

Life cycle: The stages that an organism goes through during its lifetime.

Living: Alive, not dead.

Measure: To find out the length, size, or weight of something.

Millipede: An insect that has a long body and many pairs of legs.

Moss: A plant that grows close to the ground, like carpet.

Nutrient: A substance that an organism needs to grow and stay alive.

Object: Something you can see or feel.

Observe: To use your senses to study something closely.

Organism: A living thing.

Pattern: A repeating arrangement of shapes, colors, numbers, or other things.

Pill bug: A small insect that lives under rocks or stones. It can roll itself up into a ball.

Plant: An organism that has a stem, leaves, and roots.

Plot: To locate a point or points on a graph.

Predict: To say what you think is going to happen.

Procedure: A set of steps that tells how to do something.

Property: Something about an object that helps tell what it is.

Root: The part of a plant that holds it in the soil.

Same: Alike; not different.

Seed coat: The outer covering of a seed.

Seedling: A plant that is just beginning to grow.

Senses: Touch, taste, smell, sight, and hearing.

Shape: The form of an object.

Shelter: Something that covers or protects. For humans, houses offer shelter. For animals, caves and nests provide shelter.

Size: A measurement of how big something is.

Skin: The outer covering of an animal.

Snail: A small, slow-moving animal with a soft body and a shell.

Soil: The upper layer of the earth, where plants grow.

Sort: To put things in groups on the basis of a property, such as color or shape.

Terrarium: A glass or plastic container in which animals and plants can live and be observed.

Tool: An object used to do a task.

Unit: A fixed quantity used as a standard of measure. Inches, miles, meters, degrees, and kilograms are all units.

Vertebrate: An animal with a backbone.

Weight: A measurement of how heavy something is.

Woodland: Land that is covered with trees, bushes, and shrubs.