



Key People/Scientists



Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778)
He is famous for his work in Taxonomy: the science of identifying, naming and classifying organisms.



Libby Hyman (1888-1969)
She was a specialist in invertebrate and vertebrate zoology. She produced a set of reference books titled The Invertebrates.

Key Questions

What is bacteria?

Bacteria are small organisms, or living things, that can be found in all natural environments. They are made of a single cell. Most bacteria can be seen only with a microscope.

What are microbes?

Microbes are tiny living things that are found all around us and are too small to be seen by the naked eye. They live in water, soil, and in the air. The human body is home to millions of these microbes too, also called microorganisms.

Is there a connection between disease and decay and micro-organisms?

Micro-organisms are responsible for infectious diseases and decay.



Misconceptions/Key Facts

Misconception: Microorganisms are the same as germs.

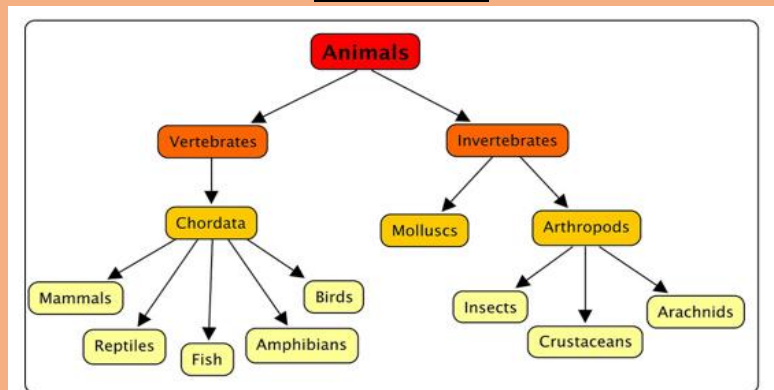
Fact: Germs are microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi, which cause diseases. Not all microorganisms are germs.

Misconception: All bacteria are bad.

Fact: Bacteria that cause diseases are bad, but there are many good bacteria, which help to decompose matter, make vitamins in our bodies and recycle important nutrients in the environment.

Diagrams/Visual Aids

Classification



Key Vocabulary

amphibian	A cold-blooded vertebrate animal that comprises frogs, toads, newts, salamanders and caecilians.
arachnid	An animal that has eight legs and a body formed of two parts.
crustaceans	Mostly live in water with a hard shell and segmented body.
decompose	Make or become rotten; decay or cause to decay.
mammal	A warm-blooded vertebrate animal, distinguishable by the possession of hair or fur, females secreting milk for young and typically giving birth to live young.
microorganism	A microscopic organism, especially a bacteria, virus or fungus.
reptile	A vertebrate animal that has dry scaly skin and typically lay soft-shelled eggs on land.