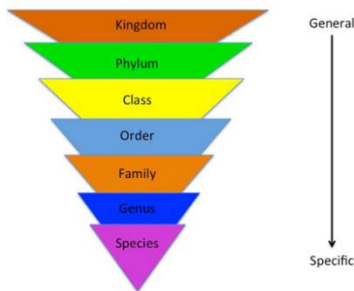


What will I know by the end of this unit?

What is the Linnaeus System?

In 1735, Swedish Scientist Carl Linnaeus first published a system for classifying all living things. An adapted version of this system is still used today: The Linnaeus System.

Living things can be classified by these eight levels. The number of living things in each level gets smaller until the one animal is left in its species level.



What are microbes?

Helpful Microbes	Harmful Microbes
Bacteria – cheese	Bacteria – salmonella is a bacterium that can lead to food poisoning
Yeast – wine	Virus – chicken pox and flu are examples of viral diseases
Bacteria – yoghurt	Fungi – athlete's foot
Yeast – bread dough	Bacteria – plaque
Penicillium fungi - antibiotics	Fungi - mould

What are microorganisms?

Microorganisms are viruses, bacteria, moulds and yeast. Some animals (dust mites) and plants (phytoplankton) are also microorganisms.

Microorganisms are very tiny living things that can only be seen using a microscope. They can be found in and on our bodies, in the air, in water and on objects around us.

Vocabulary

characteristics	Special qualities or appearances that make an individual or group of things different to others.
classify	To sort things into different groups.
taxonomist	A scientist who classifies different living things into categories.
key	A key is a series of questions about the characteristics of living things. A key is used to identify a living thing or decide which group it belongs to by answering 'yes' or 'no' questions.
bacteria	A single-celled microorganism.
microorganism	An organism that can only be seen using a microscope, e.g. bacteria, mould and yeast.
microscope	A piece of equipment that is used to view very tiny (microscopic) things by magnifying their appearance.
species	A group of animals that can reproduce to produce fertile offspring.

