
Living and Non-living things

Isn't it fascinating that there are different types of things around you. Some are grow in size some don't. Some can move some can't. We can differentiate these things as living and non-living things.

Living things

Some organisms possess life and are capable to eat, grow, respire, reproduce and utilise the energy accordingly. These organisms are able to respond to the external stimuli provided by the environment.

Characteristics of living things:

- They can grow.
- They can move.
- They can breathe.
- They can give birth to their young ones.
- They need food and air to survive.
- They are sensitive to touch.
- They can excrete waste.

Non - Living things

Some things are not capable of displaying the living characteristics. They are unable to grow, reproduce, respire, move and respond to the stimuli or evolve as per the external environment.

Characteristics of non-living things:

- They cannot grow.
- They cannot move.
- They cannot breathe.
- They cannot give birth to their young ones.
- They don't need food and air to survive.
- They cannot excrete waste.

Living things can move on their own like horse gallops, birds fly, monkeys jump on trees etc.

Plants do not move from one place to another but they can row in the direction of sunlight. Thus, they make movement in the direction of light. Some of the plants like creepers and climbers move towards support. Roots of plants like cactus grow deep in search of water.

Imp concept: There is a misconception that plants breathe through leaves only. In fact, plants breathe through all parts. Roots breathe air present in soil through thin hairs present on root.

Living things can reproduce. Some reproduce by laying eggs and some by giving birth to young-ones. Example birds , duck ,hen ,crocodiles etc lay eggs. Animals like Dog ,cat,elephant,tiger,cow,horse etc give birth to young-ones.

Living things need food and water to survive. Living things like plant make their own food with the process of photosynthesis and animal depends on tree or on other animals for their food.

Living things excrete waste products, like animals and humans excrete waste from their bodies in the form of stool and urine. Dried leaves, flower, gum and latex are the products excreted by plants.