

Nova's Habitat Explorer Mat

Learning objective: To recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways and explore how environments can change and pose dangers to living things.

Read the information below about habitats, study the word bank to help with your scientific vocabulary, and answer the questions. Use your best handwriting!

Nova the barn owl loves to explore different habitats. A habitat is the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism. It provides the living things that live there with food, water, shelter, and space to survive. For example, a woodland habitat provides trees for nesting and a variety of insects and small mammals for food. Sometimes, habitats change. This can happen naturally, like a seasonal change, or because of human activity. When a habitat changes, the plants and animals living there must adapt to survive, or they may have to move to a new area. If a habitat is destroyed, the animals living there may become endangered, which means they are at risk of disappearing forever. It is our job to help protect these special places.

Word bank: Environment · Habitat · Classification · Adaptation · Vertebrate · Invertebrate · Ecosystem · Conservation · Endangered · Organism

1. Using the text, explain what a habitat provides to the living things that reside there. (2 marks)

2. Give one example of a natural change that might happen to a habitat. (1 mark)

3. If a habitat is destroyed, why might an animal become 'endangered'? (2 marks)

4. Is a butterfly a vertebrate or an invertebrate? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

5. Nova lives in a woodland. List two things she might find in her habitat that help her survive. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a woodland habitat. Include at least two living things (one vertebrate and one invertebrate) and label the food, water, and shelter sources you have included.



Extension challenge: Research a local habitat near your school. Write a short paragraph explaining one way that humans could help protect or improve that habitat for the creatures living there.