Living Latin

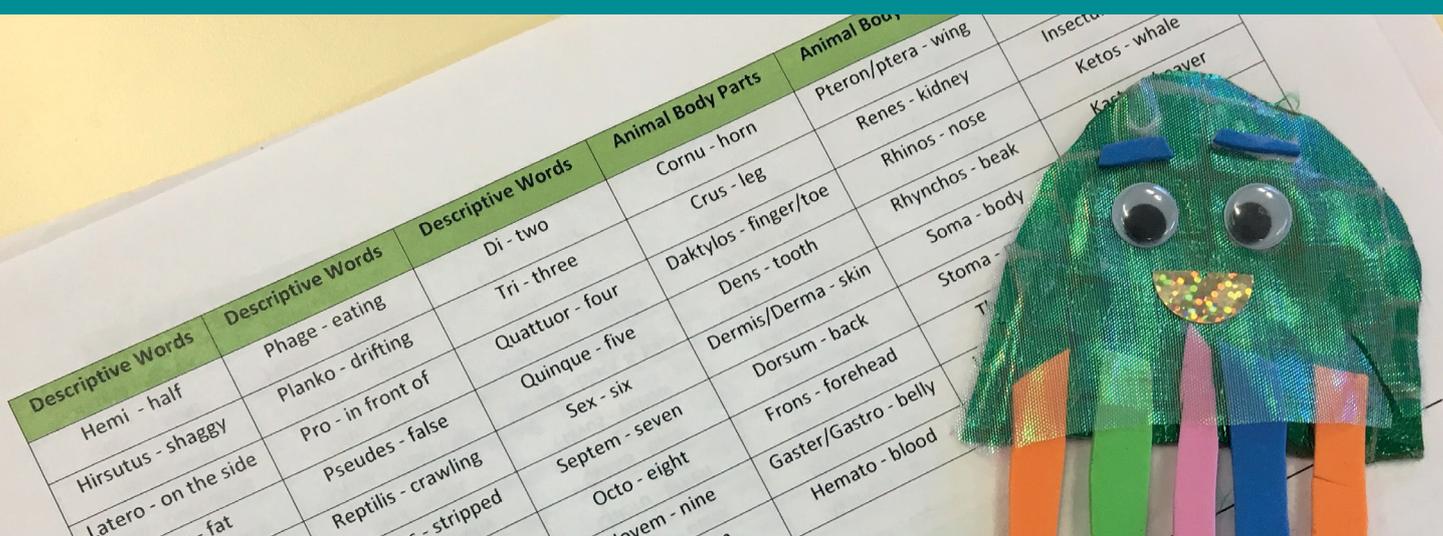| Descriptive Words	Descriptive Words	Descriptive Words	Descriptive Words	Animal Body Parts	Animal Body Parts
Hemi - half	Phage - eating	Planko - drifting	Di - two	Cornu - horn	Pteron/ptera - wing
Hirsutus - shaggy	Pro - in front of	Pseudes - false	Tri - three	Crus - leg	Renes - kidney
Latero - on the side		Reptilis - crawling	Quattuor - four	Daktylos - finger/toe	Rhinos - nose
- fat		- stripped	Quinque - five	Dens - tooth	Rhynchos - beak
			Sex - six	Dermis/Derma - skin	Soma - body
			Septem - seven	Dorsum - back	Stoma
			Octo - eight	Frons - forehead	
			...ovem - nine	Gaster/Gastro - belly	
				Hemato - blood	

Ketos - whale, Insect...

Why do we classify things?

KLAs: Science, Creative Arts, Languages	LESSON TOPIC: Biological classification, Etymology
YEAR LEVEL: K-10	DURATION OF ACTIVITY: 45 minutes

There are millions of plants and animals on our planet, and scientists organise living things into different groups based on physical similarities to make sense of their function and evolution. These groups are given standardised names, making it easy for scientists all over the world to identify and properly classify plants and animals no matter what language they speak or where in the world they live. In this activity we look at what physical and behavioural features may be used to categorise animals, and learn some Latin words often used by scientists in naming them. Students make their own imaginary animal, name it according to Linnaeus' Latin binomial system, and give it character, habitat and a story.

SYLLABUS LINKS

This activity aligns with and extends concepts and content within the K-6 Science and Technology, Languages (Latin) and Creative Arts (Visual Arts) syllabuses, as well as the 7-10 Science syllabus.

The science focus aligns with the Living World strand in Years K-10.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will:

- develop their knowledge and understanding of why and how we ascribe names to living organisms, the evolutionary relationships between different living things, and the systems used to classify them
- understand the scientific importance of a standardised system for categorising living things into hierarchical groups
- gain experience in classifying imaginary animals, including the use of Latin binomial nomenclature

- develop an understanding of physical adaptations that help animals survive in their environment
- learn some Latin words commonly used to scientifically describe living things, and apply this knowledge to the naming of their own creations

EXPLORATORY AND PLAY-BASED COMPONENTS

Students will use a range of craft and recycled materials to plan and create their own imaginary animal. Taking into account ways animals adapt to their environment, they will then use the Latin Binomial nomenclature system combined with methods of classification to give their creature a scientific name and a natural history story to accompany it.

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