

# Glossary

<b>Abdomen</b>	The end part of an insect, where all the organs and spiracles (breathing tubes) are.
<b>Antennae</b>	A pair of long thin body parts on the head of insects that are used to sense their environment (like a nose).
<b>Arachnid</b>	A type of animal with eight legs and two body parts (cephalothorax, abdomen) (includes the spiders, scorpions and ticks). All arachnids are arthropods.
<b>Arthropod</b>	All animals with an exoskeleton (their skeleton is on the outside) and includes the insects, arachnids and crustaceans.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	All of the different living things in the environment. Bio = life, diversity = lots of different things.
<b>Biodiversity Web</b>	A network like a food web, that is broader and includes processes such as pollination and seed dispersal.
<b>Cephalothorax</b>	The body part of arachnids that is made of the fused head and thorax.
<b>Chrysalis</b>	Another name given to the pupa of butterflies
<b>Cocoon</b>	The protective covering that some insect larvae make around their pupa. It is often fluffy or hairy.
<b>Crustacean</b>	A type of animal with several pairs of two-parted (biramous) legs. Most crustaceans live in water (but some, like slaters, live on land). All crustaceans are arthropods.

<b>Decomposers</b>	The living things in a food web or chain that break down dead things to transfer the nutrients back into the soil for plants (the producers). E.g. some fungi and beetles
<b>Ecology</b>	The study of the environment and how living things interact with it.
<b>Ecosystem</b>	All of the living things and the physical environment they interact with.
<b>Elytra</b>	The hardened fore wings of a beetle.
<b>Entomologist</b>	A scientist who studies insects.
<b>Entomology</b>	The scientific study of insects.
<b>Exoskeleton</b>	A hard outer layer that protects the bodies of arthropods like insects and spiders.
<b>Food chain</b>	A sequence of living things that describes how energy is transferred through the ecosystem (who eats who).
<b>Food web</b>	A network that consists of all the food chains in a single ecosystem.
<b>Habitat</b>	The natural home or environment of a living thing like an animal or plant.
<b>Herbivore</b>	An animal that eats plants to gain energy and nutrients.
<b>Insect</b>	A type of animal with six legs and three body parts (head, thorax, abdomen). All insects are arthropods.
<b>Invertebrate</b>	An animal without a backbone/spinal column. This includes the arthropods, but also includes lots of other animals like snails and jellyfish.
<b>Larva</b>	The juvenile stage of some insects that have complete metamorphosis. (Plural: larvae). E.g. a caterpillar is a larva of a butterfly.
<b>Malaise trap</b>	A insect trap that entomologists use to survey for particular flying insects in an environment.
<b>Mandibles</b>	The jaw-like feeding mouthparts of some insects like beetles (the 'chompy' part).
<b>Metamorphosis</b>	The transition an insect undergoes during its lifecycle to turn into an adult insect. Some insects have complete metamorphosis (egg-larva-pupa-adult) whilst others have incomplete metamorphosis (egg-nymph-adult).

<b>Microscope</b>	A piece of scientific equipment that uses lenses and light to allow you to see small things magnified.
<b>Nectar</b>	A sweet liquid produced by flowers that provides sugar for animals like insects to eat.
<b>Nymph</b>	The juvenile form of insects that have incomplete metamorphosis (e.g. grasshoppers).
<b>Organic matter</b>	Stuff that is made of living things (organisms) or things that were once living, like leaf litter.
<b>Organism</b>	A living-thing, such as a plant, animal, fungi or bacteria.
<b>Pollen</b>	A powder that is made by the male parts of a flower. Insects are important for spreading pollen from flower to flower so that female parts of flowers are able to make seeds for more plants.
<b>Pollinator</b>	An animal (like an insect) that spreads pollen from one flower to another.
<b>Predator</b>	An animal that eats other animals to gain energy and nutrients.
<b>Producers</b>	The living things in a food web or chain that produce their own energy from the sun (photosynthesis) and don't need to eat other living things to survive, e.g. plants and algae.
<b>Pupa</b>	The stage of an insect lifecycle where a larva changes into an adult. A pupa can be in a cocoon (protective covering) or is sometimes called a chrysalis. (Plural: pupae).
<b>Quadrat</b>	A small section of the larger habitat or area that has been chosen to assess the habitat quality or distribution of plants or animals (e.g. by measuring ecological features like tree height). Quadrats act as representative sections for the larger habitat.
<b>Species</b>	Generally, the lowest classification of living things in taxonomy.
<b>Spiracle</b>	The breathing hole on the abdomen of an insect (insects don't breathe through their mouths).
<b>Taxonomist</b>	A scientist who studies how living things are related to each other, classifies them and gives them scientific names.
<b>Taxonomy</b>	The study of classifying (sorting, naming and describing) living things.
<b>Thorax</b>	The middle part of an insect, between the head and the abdomen, where the wings and legs attach.
<b>Vertebrate</b>	An animal that has a backbone/spinal column. This includes mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles.