Year 5 Science: Sorting living things: plants, animals and keys

Name: _____ Date: _____

Try these without your notes first, then check the answer key.

Practice

1. A kauri makes seeds in cones and has no flowers. Which plant group is it in?

2. A tuatara has a backbone. Is it a vertebrate or an invertebrate?

3. Why is kelp not classified as a plant?

4. An animal has eight legs, two body parts and no backbone. Is it an insect or a spider?

5. Which of these can only be seen with a microscope: a bacterium, a moss or an ant?

Fix the mistake

6. Correct this statement: "Seaweed is a plant because it is green and lives in water."

7. Correct this statement: "Plants that live in water all go in the same group."

8. Correct this statement: "A spider is an insect."

9. Correct this statement: "A key question can be "Is it big?""

Answer key (for parents and tutors)

1. A kauri makes seeds in cones and has no flowers. Which plant group is it in?
   Cone-bearing plants.
2. A tuatara has a backbone. Is it a vertebrate or an invertebrate?
   A vertebrate (it is a reptile).
3. Why is kelp not classified as a plant?
   It has no true roots, stems or leaves, so it is an alga, not a plant.
4. An animal has eight legs, two body parts and no backbone. Is it an insect or a spider?
   A spider, because insects have six legs and three body parts.
5. Which of these can only be seen with a microscope: a bacterium, a moss or an ant?
   A bacterium, because it is a microorganism.
6. Correct this statement: "Seaweed is a plant because it is green and lives in water."
   Seaweed is an alga: it has no true roots, stems or leaves, so it is in a separate group from plants.
7. Correct this statement: "Plants that live in water all go in the same group."
   Plants are grouped by their structures, not where they live; seagrass has flowers, so it is a flowering plant.
8. Correct this statement: "A spider is an insect."
   Spiders have eight legs and two body parts; insects have six legs and three body parts, so they are different groups.
9. Correct this statement: "A key question can be "Is it big?""
   Use features anyone can check the same way, such as "Does it have a shell?", because big means different things to different people.