

CHARACTERISTICS OF LIVING THINGS

First, an organism must be classified as living or non-living (the latter includes once-living organisms).

Living organisms show the following characteristics. They:

- **MOVE** by themselves e.g. Flowers open during the day and close at night, and the heads of sunflowers follow the sun.
- **REPRODUCE**
- need **NUTRITION** to survive
- **GROW**
- **RESPOND** to stimuli e.g. Plants grow towards sunlight, Venus Flytraps shut when a fly lands on them
- **EXCHANGE** gases
- produce **WASTE**
- need **WATER**

This can be remembered by the acronym MR N GREWW.