



5.2 Living organisms have characteristics in common

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Living or non-living?

In biology, we start to classify the things in the world according to whether they are living or non-living. Living things have special features that make them distinctly different from non-living things

- 1 All living things share eight key features. Complete the mnemonic (memory trick) below to outline the meaning of each feature. The first one has been done for you.

M	<i>Movement: Living things can MOVE by themselves</i>
R	
N	
G	
R	
E	
W	
W	

- 2 Are the following things **living** or **non-living**? Write your answers below. The first one has been done for you.

a a cat	<i>living</i>	e salt	_____
b a drop of water	_____	g bacteria	_____
c an ant	_____	h grass	_____
d mould	_____	i computer	_____



Name:

Class:

- 3 Light a candle and look at the candle flame. Describe how it carries out each of the eight key features.

M	<i>Movement: The flame flickers and moves</i>
R	
N	
G	
R	
E	
W	
W	



- 4 Look at your answers to the questions above. Do you think a flame is living or non-living? Why?

WORD DETECTIVE

- 5 Word Search

Find the words listed in the puzzle below.

N	H	S	M	E	M	R	B	I	V	A	S	Z	F	Z		BACTERIA	MARS
G	E	C	J	F	S	A	P	Q	I	A	T	F	K	K		BREATHE	MICROSCOPE
S	T	G	C	U	C	M	E	D	H	C	O	W	G	Q		EARTH	OXYGEN
P	P	F	Y	T	C	V	P	H	P	N	B	Q	J	Z		EVOLVE	ROBOTS
V	T	A	E	X	L	I	V	I	N	G	O	L	T	U		GASES	ROVER
E	J	R	C	O	O	S	F	L	M	R	R	D	B	K		LIVING	SPACE
O	I	D	V	E	Z	V	S	Q	I	O	F	N	U	G			
A	S	E	H	T	R	A	E	W	C	V	C	P	G	Q			
O	B	R	O	E	A	Q	C	T	R	E	U	G	V	C			
R	G	I	A	O	P	O	G	O	O	R	N	I	R	G			
E	H	S	W	M	Y	D	T	D	S	F	G	T	A	D			
E	H	T	A	E	R	B	J	P	C	U	H	S	M	W			
K	L	H	Z	S	W	G	O	O	O	L	E	A	W	F			
F	Z	R	X	V	F	W	A	V	P	S	P	U	G	P			
H	D	E	X	F	E	C	P	B	E	U	U	R	K	K			