

## Topic: Living and Non-living Things (I)

**Sub-topic:** Meaning, Classification, and States of Matter

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### Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students should be able to:

1. Define what living and non-living things are.
  2. Identify and classify examples of both.
  3. Understand and describe the three basic states of matter.
  4. Explain the differences between living and non-living things using characteristics.
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### Introduction

Everything around us — from the air we breathe to the people we interact with — can be grouped into two broad categories: **Living** and **Non-living** things.

This classification helps us understand how different things behave, how they interact with their environment, and how they are useful to us.

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### 1. Meaning of Living and Non-living Things

#### ◆ What are Living Things?

Living things are things that **have life**. They can carry out life processes such as:

- **Movement** (e.g., animals walking, plants turning toward light)
- **Respiration** (breathing or energy release)
- **Sensitivity** (respond to changes in environment)
- **Growth**
- **Reproduction** (ability to produce offspring)
- **Excretion** (removal of waste)
- **Nutrition** (feeding)

These processes are often remembered using the acronym **MR NIGER D**.

#### **Examples of Living Things:**

- Humans
  - Dogs
  - Trees
  - Birds
  - Fish
  - Insects
  - Grass
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#### **◆ What are Non-living Things?**

Non-living things are things that **do not have life**. They:

- Do not move on their own
- Cannot grow or reproduce
- Do not eat or breathe
- Cannot respond to their environment

Some non-living things were once part of living things (e.g., wooden furniture from trees), but once life processes stop, the object is no longer living.

#### **Examples of Non-living Things:**

- Rock
- Chair
- Water
- Air
- Books
- Plastic
- Sand

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## 2. Classification of Things in Our Environment

### Living Things      Non-living Things

Human beings      Stones

Goats, cows, birds      Desks, tables

Mango trees, grass      Water, air

Fish, snails      Radios, phones

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## 3. States of Matter

Matter is anything that has **mass** and occupies **space**. All matter exists in one of these three physical states:

State	Description	Examples
Solid	Has a fixed shape and volume	Stone, iron, chalk
Liquid	Has a fixed volume but takes the shape of a container	Water, milk, oil
Gas	Has no fixed shape or volume; spreads in all directions	Air, steam, oxygen

- **Solids** are tightly packed and do not flow.
- **Liquids** flow and can be poured.
- **Gases** are invisible and expand to fill space.

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## Summary of Key Points

- Living things show the characteristics of life (MRS GREN or MR NIGER D).
- Non-living things do not carry out life processes.
- Everything around us exists in one of the three states of matter: solid, liquid, or gas.