

# 5 Things Around Us



## Learning Objectives

After completing this chapter, you will be able to:

- ◆ identify natural and human-made things
- ◆ list the characteristics of living things
- ◆ identify living and non-living things
- ◆ differentiate between plants and animals

Use Cordova Smart Class Software on the smart board in class to observe the living and non-living things around us and explore the features of living things.

In our daily life, we see a number of things. They may be natural or human-made, living or non-living.

**Natural things** are things that are not made by humans like the sun, air, water, plants, animals and rocks. They may be **living** or **non-living**.

**Human-made things** are things that are made by humans like house, car, book and bulb. Human-made things are **non-living things**.

## LIVING AND NON-LIVING THINGS



Name any four living things shown in the above picture.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

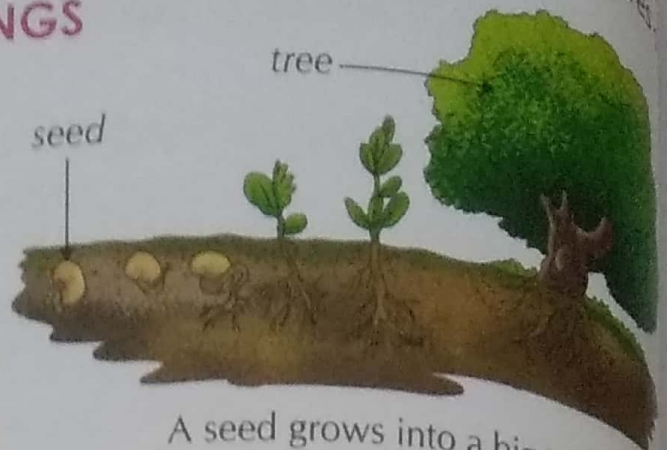
Now, name any four non-living things shown in the above picture.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

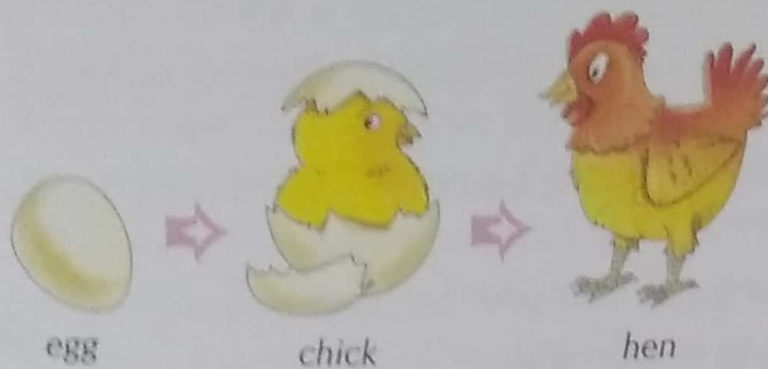
Plants, animals and human beings are living things. The sun, moon, mountains, all human-made objects like pens, books and pencils are non-living things. Living things differ from non-living things in many ways. Let us now study the features of living things which make them different from non-living things.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF LIVING THINGS

**1. Living Things Grow: All living things grow.** A tiny seed grows into a baby plant. After some time, it grows into a big plant or a tree.

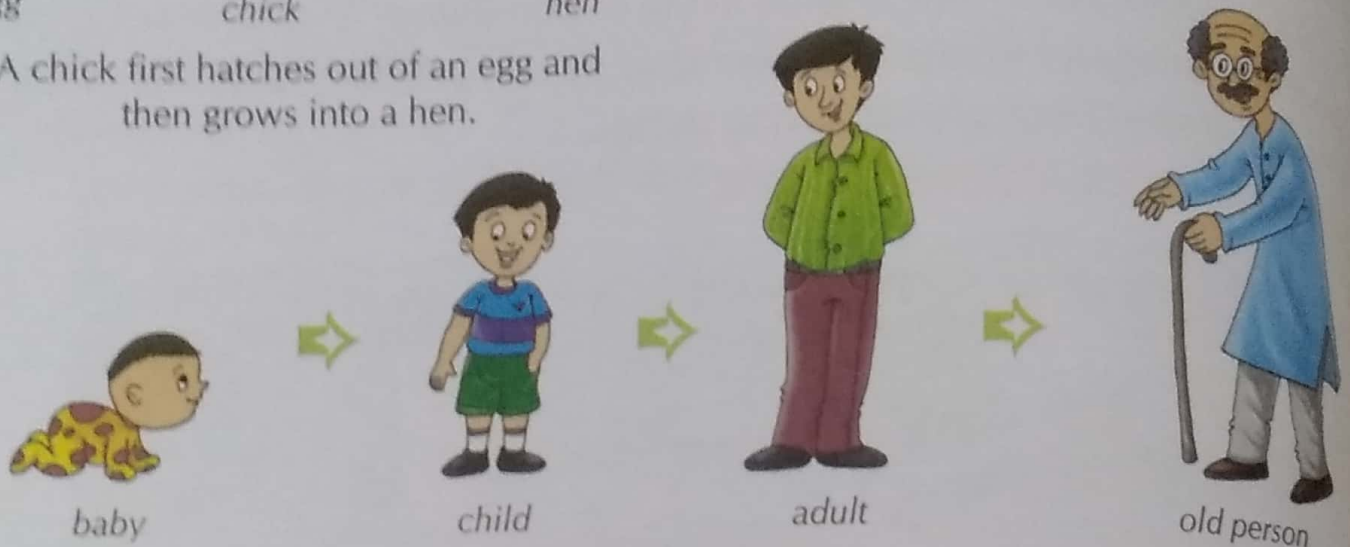


A seed grows into a big tree.



A chick first hatches out of an egg and then grows into a hen.

Baby animals grow into big animals. They grow in shape and size.



Human beings grow.

A human baby grows into an adult and then an old person.

Does your doll or pencil grow? No.

**Non-living things do not grow.**



## Activity

Take some soil in a big bowl. Put some soaked seeds in it. Keep it in the sun and water it regularly. After a few days, you see baby plants growing in it.



**2. Living Things need Food and Water:** Can we live without water or food? No. All living things need food and water to live.

Most plants make their own food from water, air and sunlight. Animals get their food from plants and other animals.



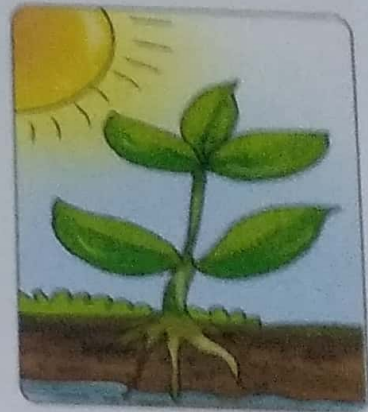
We need food to live.



A squirrel eats grains.



A lion eats flesh of other animals.



Plants make their own food.

Living things need food and water.

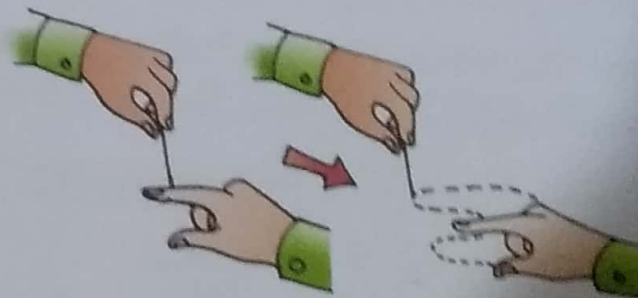
Does your doll or pencil need food to eat or water to drink? No. Non-living things do not need food and water.

### Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Tick (✓) the correct answers:

- Which of the following is a non-living thing?  
(a) rose plant  (b) pencil  (c) rabbit
- What do all living things do?  
(a) grow  (b) talk  (c) grow and talk
- Which of the following does not need water to live?  
(a) plant  (b) football  (c) animal

**Living Things Feel and React:** When we accidentally prick our hand with a small pin, we feel the pain and quickly move our hand away. When we touch an ice cube, our fingers feel cold. When we hear music, our feet start tapping the floor. Our pet dog moves its tail on seeing any family member while it barks at a stranger.



We quickly move our hand away when pricked with a pin.

Humans and most animals have **sense organs** (eyes, nose, ears, tongue and skin) to feel the changes around them. Insects like cockroaches and butterflies have **antennae** to sense the changes around them. Plants do not have any sense organs but they react to changes around them. When we touch the leaves of touch-me-not plant, it quickly closes its leaves.



The touch-me-not plant closes its leaves when touched.



We feel cold when we touch ice cubes.

Living things feel.

**So, living things feel and react.**

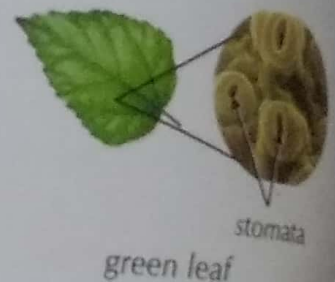
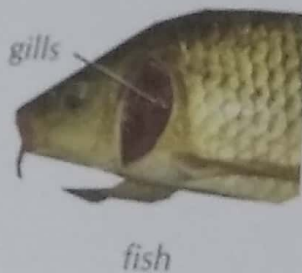
Now, touch an ice cube on your doll's finger. Does it react? No.

**Non-living things do not feel and react.**

**4. Living Things Breathe:** Hold your breath for a few seconds. Can you hold it for longer time? No, all living things breathe to live. Animals like cats, dogs, tigers and lions breathe through their **lungs**. Humans also breathe through lungs. Insects like cockroaches, mosquitoes and grasshoppers breathe through **air holes** in their bodies. Fish breathe through **gills** and take in oxygen dissolved in water. Plants breathe through tiny holes in their leaves called **stomata**. **So, all living things breathe.**



We breathe through lungs.



Living things breathe.

Hold the nose of your doll for a long time.

Does it react? No. **Non-living things do not breathe.**

### Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Tick (✓) the correct answers:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ do not have sense organs.

(a) Humans

(b) Plants

(c) Animals



2. Fish breathe through

(a) gills.

(b) skin.

(c) nose.

3. Cockroaches and butterflies breathe through \_\_\_\_\_ in their bodies.

(a) pores

(b) gills

(c) air holes

**5. Living Things Move:** Living things move. Animals move from place to place in search of food and shelter or to run away from their enemies. Different animals move in different ways. Humans, lions, cows, etc., walk with **legs**. Insects and birds fly with **wings**. Fishes swim with **fins** and **tail**.



A housefly flies with wings.



A lioness run with legs to catch a zebra.

Living things move.

Plants do not move from one place to another. They are fixed to the ground. Some plants show a little movement. The touch-me-not plant closes its leaves when we touch it. The sunflower always turns towards the sun. Lotus flower opens in the morning and closes at night.



A sunflower turns towards the sun.

**So, living things move on their own.**

Does your doll move on its own? No. **Non-living things do not move on their own.**

**6. Living Things Reproduce:** All living things produce young ones of their own kind. This process is called **reproduction**. Insects, birds and some other animals like snakes, crocodiles and frogs lay eggs from which babies come out.

Animals like dogs and cats give birth to young ones. Dogs have puppies, cats have kittens and human beings have babies. Plants produce seeds. New plants grow from seeds or from other parts of the plants like stems, roots or leaves. So, **living things reproduce.**



A cat gives birth to kittens.



Human beings have babies.



Plants grow from seeds.

Can your doll or toy reproduce? No. Non-living things cannot reproduce.

### KEY WORDS

- Lungs : breathing organ in humans and some animals  
Gills : breathing organ in fishes  
Stomata : tiny holes in the leaves through which plants breathe



### Points to Remember

- ▶ Natural things may be living or non-living while human-made things are non-living.
- ▶ Living things can grow, feel, react, breathe, move, reproduce and also need food and water.
- ▶ Both plants and animals are living but they differ in many ways.

## Exercises

(Use Cordova Smart Class Software on the smart board in class to do these exercises.)

### SECTION - A

#### Class Response

##### A Oral Questions:

1. How do animals get their food?
2. How do plants breathe?
3. What happens when we touch an ice cube?

##### B Science Quiz:

1. Name two living things.
2. Name two plants that show a little movement.
3. Name the young one of a dog.

#### Worksheet

##### A Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs):

1. Which of the following can make its own food?  
(a) leopard       (b) plant       (c) tiger
2. Your doll does not need food because it is a  
(a) dead thing.       (b) living thing.       (c) non-living thing



**B** Circle the odd ones:

- |             |          |      |
|-------------|----------|------|
| 1. mosquito | housefly | doll |
| 2. lion     | toy      | book |
| 3. kittens  | puppies  | lion |

**C** Fill in the blanks with the help of the given words:

- Birds have \_\_\_\_\_ to fly. (wings/legs)
- Sunflower always turns towards the \_\_\_\_\_. (moon/sun)
- A chick finally grows into a \_\_\_\_\_. (cat/hen)
- We breathe through our \_\_\_\_\_. (lungs/gills)

**SECTION - B**

**A** Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) Scientific/Practical skills:

- A seed grows into a big  
(a) flower.  (b) leaf.  (c) plant.
- Insects like cockroaches and butterflies feel through  
(a) sense organs.  (b) antennae.  (c) air holes.

**B** Very Short Answer Questions:

- What will the following grow into (a) a kitten (b) a baby boy?
- Name any two animals that give birth to young ones.

**C** Short Answer Questions:

- How do humans and most animals feel changes around them?
- What are the tiny holes in the leaves through which plants breathe called?
- Rohan plucks flowers and put them in a vase in his room daily. His father tells him not to pluck flowers as they are also living things and look beautiful in the garden only.  
(a) Why are plants considered as living things?  
(b) Is it good to pluck flowers from plants? Why/Why not? (Value Corner)
- Why do animals move from place to place?

**D** Long Answer Questions:

- How are plants different from animals?
- Write three features that make living things different from non-living things.

**E** Think And Answer:

- Ajay found his very old dress in the almirah. He tried to wear it but could not fit in as the dress was small for him. Why did this happen?

2. Priya observed the fishes in her aquarium. She saw air bubbles coming out from them. Can you tell the reason?

## Activity

### Group Activity/Project

1. Some plants do not need seeds to grow. They can grow from any other part of the plant. Cut a piece of potato which has an eye and plant it in soil. After a few days, a small potato plant will grow from it.
2. Make a list of at least 10 things around your house, school and park. Classify them into natural things and human-made things.

### Group Discussion

Discuss in the class 'How living things get their food? How they depend upon each other for food?'

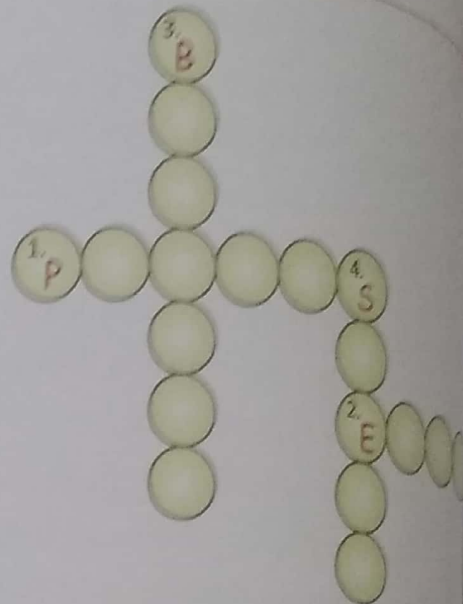
## Crossword

### Across (→):

1. Living things that make their own food are \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In insects and birds, babies come out from \_\_\_\_\_.

### Down (↓):

3. Stomata in leaves help plant to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. New plants grow from \_\_\_\_\_.



## Little Scientist

Put some soil in two glass jars. Sow some seeds in them. Keep the jars in sunlight and water them regularly. When the plants grow from seeds, close one jar and observe for 2-3 days. What do you observe? Write in your notebook and give reason for the same.



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