



Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Hong Kong Country Parks Education Kit for Secondary Schools

Sorting Things into Groups (Plants and Vertebrates)

Topics covered:

- Characteristics of animals and plants
- Using the key

Background information:

In country parks, we can see many plants surrounding us. But can you tell how are they different from each other? We humans are vertebrates, as we have a backbone. But how do we distinguish between different vertebrates? In fact, we can classify them by observing their external features.

Teaching objectives

1. To enable students to classify plants and different types of vertebrates.
2. To introduce local examples of each taxa group of vertebrates.

Suggested study mode

Classroom activity or field study

Suggested country park / visitor centre for the field study

- Any country park / visit centre listed in the "[Field Study](#)" section of this Education Kit

Suggested procedures

1. Identify two common flowering and non-flowering plants which can be found in our country parks. Fill in the profiles of these two plant species in [Worksheet IS-8.1](#).
2. Go to [Worksheet IS-8.2](#). Introduce the different kinds of animals on the list. Use the AFCD's Hong Kong Biodiversity Online database to complete [Worksheet IS-8.2](#).
3. Complete the tables comparing external features of the animals on [Worksheet IS-8.3](#). Using the examples in [Worksheet IS-8.1](#), complete the biological key.
4. Draw a conclusion from the lesson.