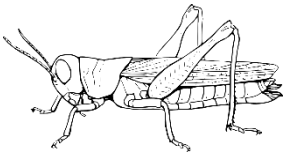


Living and Non-Living Things

Things are either living or non-living.

Living things can move by themselves. They grow and they can reproduce. Living things have common needs. They all need air, water and food.



A grasshopper is an example of a living thing. Grasshoppers breathe air and drink water. They eat grass, leaves and flowers. This gives them energy to grow. They reproduce by laying eggs.

A plant is another example of a living thing. We know it's a living thing because it needs air, water and food (the sun and nutrients from the soil). Plants grow and reproduce and while the movement of plants isn't as obvious as with other living things, they can still move.



Non-living things do not need air, water or food. They cannot grow or move by themselves or reproduce.



An example of a non-living thing is a balloon. Balloons don't need water or food. They use air, but not to breathe. Balloons cannot move or grow by themselves, and they do not reproduce.

Non-living things are often manmade but can also be natural. For example, rocks. Rocks are natural but are non-living. Rocks do not need air, food or water, and rocks do not grow or reproduce.



Look around you. What can you see? Is it living or non-living? Remember to ask yourself these questions:

- Does it need air? ...water? ...food?
- Does it move by itself?
- Does it grow?
- Does it reproduce?