

# THE LIVING WORLD

Notes for KITE Victers Zoology Class (Class :2) 25/11/2020

For viewing the class click the link below

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4IO9p8-EVc>



## DIVERSITY IN THE LIVING WORLD

- Each different kind of plant, animal or organism that we see, represents a **species**.
- **The number of species that are** known and described range between **1.7-1.8 million**.
- **This refers to biodiversity** or the number and types of organisms present on earth.

## Nomenclature

- Nomenclature is the standardization of naming of living things so that a particular organism is known by the same name all over the world.
- The first step in nomenclature or naming is **identification**.
- **International Code for Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN)** provide agreed principles and criteria for naming plants.
- **International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN)** provide agreed principles and criteria for naming animals.

## Binomial nomenclature

- The system of providing a name to an organism with two components is called **Binomial nomenclature**.
- Binomial nomenclature system is given by **Carolus Linnaeus**.
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- Each name has two components –  
**The Generic name and the specific epithet.**

### Example

- The scientific name of mango is written as *Mangifera indica*.
- In this name *Mangifera* represents the **genus**  
*indica*, is a particular species, or a specific epithet.

## Universal Rules of Nomenclature

1. Biological names are generally in Latin and written in italics.
  2. The first word in a biological name represents the genus while the second component denotes the specific epithet.
  3. When handwritten, both the words in a biological name are separately underlined, or printed in italics to indicate their Latin origin.
  4. The first word denoting the genus starts with a capital letter while the specific epithet starts with a small letter.
- Name of the author appears after the specific epithet, i.e., at the end of the biological name and is written in an abbreviated form,

### Example

*Mangifera indica* Linn.

It indicates that this species was first described by Linnaeus.

## Classification

- Classification is the process by which anything is grouped into convenient categories based on some easily observable characters.

## Taxa

*The scientific term for categories is taxa.*

## TAXONOMY

Based on characteristics, all living organisms can be classified into different taxa (categories). This process of classification is **taxonomy**.

### Basic processes of taxonomy

- **Characterisation**
- **Identification**
- **Classification** and
- **Nomenclature**

are the processes that are basic to taxonomy.

## TAXON

It is the unit of classification which represents a rank in classification.

In Biology, commonly used taxa are

- Species
- Genus
- Family
- Order
- Class
- Phylum
- Kingdom

## SPECIES

- A group of individual organisms with fundamental similarities are called as a **species**.

## GENUS

- **Genus is a group of related species.**
- Lion - *Panthera leo*
- Leopard - *Panthera pardus*
- Tiger - *Panthera tigris*

are all species of the genus *Panthera*.

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## FAMILY

*Family, has a group of related genera with still less number of similarities as compared to genus and species.*

*Among animals, genus **Panthera**, comprising lion, tiger, leopard is put **along with genus, Felis (cats) in the family Felidae.***

*Similarly, cat and a dog, are separated into two different **families - Felidae and Canidae, respectively.***

### ASSIGNMENT

*Write the biological names  
of 20 animals and 20  
plants you have  
seen in your surroundings*

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