Y3/4 Science: Animals, including humans
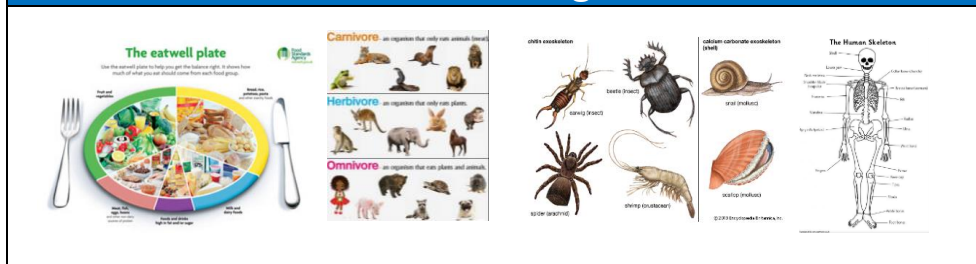

Why are we learning about animals, including humans?

We are building on all our previous learning in KS1 about living things and their habitats; the human body; offspring of animals; groups of animals; needs of animals and how humans can keep healthy.

This new learning is important because we need to know about the human body and the importance of a nutritious diet so that we can live a healthy life. Learning about the similarities and differences between the diverse life forms on our planet helps us to understand how interconnected we are.

This will help us get ready for future learning about the human circulatory system and the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way our bodies function. It will also be relevant in a wide range of jobs in the areas of health, fitness and medicine.

Important questions to answer:

- How can we sort the foods that we eat into food groups?
- What makes a healthy meal for a human?
- Are all living things either carnivores, herbivores or omnivores?
- Do all animals have skeletons?
- What bones make up the human skeleton and what do they do?
- How do skeletons move?

Experiences we will have:

- Plan a healthy meal
- Make our own models to show how bones move

Things we need to know:

- To know that the eatwell plate is made up starchy carbohydrates, protein, fruit and vegetables, dairy and fats
- To know that we need to eat a healthy balance of the different food groups
- To know that animals eat only meat, only plants or both animals and plants
- To know how to recognise vertebrates, invertebrates including organisms with exoskeletons
- To know the names of the main bones in the human body and their functions
- To know that bones are pulled into different positions by muscles

Skills we need to learn:

- I can identify foods that belong to the different food groups
- I can describe a healthy meal
- I can categorise animals into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores
- I can explain the characteristics of vertebrates and invertebrates
- I can recall the names of the bones in the human body
- I can create a model to show the role of muscles in movement

Subject Specific Vocabulary:

carbohydrate	carnivore	exoskeleton
protein	herbivore	skull
eatwell plate	omnivore	spine
nutrition	vertebrate	pelvis
fibre	invertebrate	muscle