

TAXONOMY. WHAT IS IT?

TAXONOMY IS THE SCIENCE OF IDENTIFYING, NAMING, DESCRIBING AND CLASSIFYING DIFFERENT ORGANISMS.

TAXONOMY INCLUDES ALL ORGANISMS, BOTH LIVING AND EXTINCT, AND CLASSIFIES THEM INTO DISTINCT GROUPS, OR, 'CATEGORIES'.



DID YOU KNOW?

Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) was a Swedish botanist, physician and zoologist who is regarded as the **father of taxonomy**. His system for naming, ranking, and classifying organisms -though modified over the years - **is still widely used today**.

There are 8 distinct taxonomic categories:



SPECIES

GENUS

FAMILY

ORDER

CLASS

PHYLUM

KINGDOM

DOMAIN

Human Taxonomy



SAPIENS

номо

HOMINIDAE

PRIMATES

MAMMALIA

CHORDATA

ANIMALIA

EUKARYA

Linnaeus's taxonomy system has **two main features** that contribute to its ease of use in naming and grouping organisms



Nomenclature the formal system of naming species

Taxonomic Classification

the ordering of species into broad categories



Organisms are grouped together into taxa. Groups are given

a taxonomic rank based on similarities and presumed

evolutionary relationships



A hierarchical system is used to classify organisms to the species level. This system is called taxonomic classification

Taxonomy provides a basic understanding of the components of biodiversity which is vital in ensuring effective decision-making about conservation and sustainability.