Staying alive

Background knowledge
All living things display certain characteristics that separate them from non-living things. For example, animals need oxygen to breathe and food to produce energy. They move around to find food and shelter and to avoid danger. They also need to get rid of the waste products produced by their bodies. Animals grow and repair themselves when parts of their body are injured. They reproduce and can detect things in the environment through their senses of smell, touch, taste, sight, and hearing.

Science activity
Draw a line connecting each picture below to one of these three words: living (alive), non-living (never alive), or dead (was once alive). The first one has been done for you.

```
Living     Non-living     Dead
\begin{itemize}
  \item Tree
  \item Brick
  \item Fireplace
  \item Plate and knife
  \item Pig
  \item Log
\end{itemize}
```

Science investigation

⚠️ Take extra care - ask an adult to supervise you.
Look for a snail or slug in your garden or local park. You may find one at the base of a wall or under some leaves. Observe the snail or slug carefully. What are some of the characteristics of life that you were able to observe? Carry out an investigation to learn more about the animal’s food preferences. Observe how it moves on different types of surfaces, such as smooth or rough.
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Science investigation

Slugs can be substituted for snails. Snails can be kept in small tanks. They eat lettuce and other vegetables. Snails need calcium, so grind up a calcium tablet every few weeks. If snails do not receive enough calcium, their shells will soften.