Year 3 - Branching Databases – Knowledge Organiser

|  |
| --- |
| Prior Learning: collect and representing data using charts and pictograms, sorting data into groups  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Facts | Vocabulary |
| 1. **What is a branching database?**
* A branching database (sometimes called a binary tree) is a way of classifying a group of objects.
* If it has been designed properly, someone else could use the tree to identify one of the objects. It could be used, for example, to classify mini-beasts, musical instruments, white powders or fruit.
 | **Branching database** – a way of classifying a group of objects. **Classify** – arrange in categories according to shared characteristics. **Attribute**s - a quality or feature regarded as a characteristic of someone or something |
| 1. **Using branching databases**
* Branching databases use a series of closed questions to determine the attributes of a particular item.
* By working through these questions, the user will be able to sort a particular set of items.
* When using a branching diagram, the first question will split the group of objects evenly.
* The next question answered will be determined by the answer to the previous question, the user will then follow a branch to the end where they will find the name of the item.
 | 1. **Creating a digital branching database**
* Digital databases allowing for easier editing and some can be programmed to work through the branches.
* They are created following the same process as a physical database, however the computer will sort and create branches based on the user’s questions.

 |
| 1. **Creating a physical branching database**
* When creating a branching database, the first question should evenly split the objects based on common attributes.
* Purposeful closed questions should be used to split the group further until each branch ends in one specific object; images can be used to represent the object.
* Once a branching database is complete, it should be thoroughly tested using each item; this will ensure that it correctly sorts items within a category.
 | Branching Database | St. Mary &amp; St. Thomas Aquinas |