

DISTINGUISHING ANIMAL CHARACTERISTICS



Understanding Life Systems: Biodiversity



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Learning Expectations from: Science Ontario Curriculum 2007

3.1 - Identify and describe the distinguishing characteristics of different groups of plants and animals (e.g., invertebrates have no spinal column; insects have three basic body parts; flowering plants produce flowers and fruits), and use these characteristics to further classify various kinds of plants and animals (e.g., invertebrates – arthropods – insects; vertebrates – mammals – primates; seed plants – flowering plants – grasses)



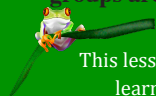
This lesson will be focusing on describing the characteristics and classifications of **vertebrates**



Intent of Lesson



The intent of this lesson is to help students understand the difference between vertebrates from invertebrates. Additionally students will know how to identify specific characteristics of vertebrates, and furthermore classify those vertebrates into different groups. Students will be able to distinguish which group an animal belongs too, examples of the groups are fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds or mammals.



This lesson will be an introduction to vertebrates, learning about characteristics of different vertebrates and how to further extend that knowledge and classify these vertebrates.



★ This will be an introduction lesson, however students may already have inquired knowledge of animal characteristics and the classification of these vertebrates

INVERTEBRATES VS VERTEBRATES

Invertebrates:
Animals without a backbone

Vertebrates:
Animals with a backbone

Drag the animals on top of the category you believe they fall under:

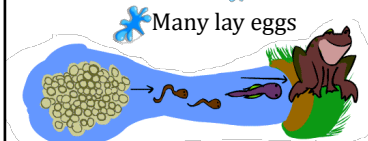
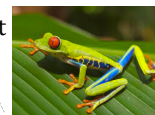


CLASSIFICATIONS OF VERTEBRATES




AMPHIBIANS

- Live on land and water
- Moist smooth skin (no hair or fur)
- Webbed feet
- Many lay eggs




Are amphibians **WARM** or **COLD** blooded?





BIRDS







BIRDS

wings & feathers →

2 legs →

← can't see ears

Can you guess another characteristics that help identify birds?

Birds have **BEAKS** instead of **TEETH!**





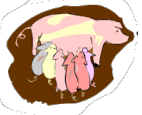
BIRD BEAKS



 duck	 gull	 eagle	 cross bill
 night hawk	 avocet	 wood pecker	 parrot
 flamingo	 kiwi	 spoon bill	 pelican

MAMMALS


What characteristics do Mammals have?








FISH





Can you name the last type of classification of vertebrates we are going to look at?



That's right!

REPTILES!

Give Bill a poke and he can tell you all about reptiles



