

# Animal Classification



Name \_\_\_\_\_

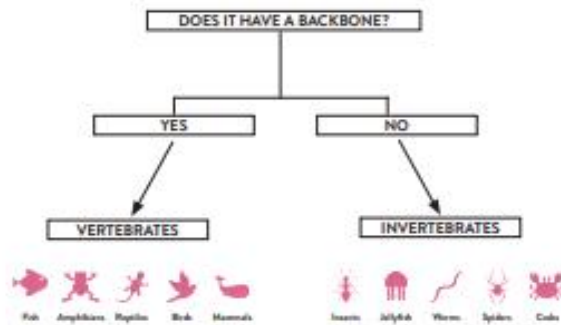
Class \_\_\_\_\_

# CLASSIFICATION

## KEY FACTS

- The animal kingdom can be divided into two broad groups: vertebrates and invertebrates
- Vertebrate animals are grouped into: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, and insects
- Invertebrates are animals without an internal backbone
- Some invertebrates have no skeleton at all eg worms, slugs, jellyfish
- Some have a hard outer casing called an exoskeleton which protects their bodies eg insects, spiders and crabs
- The plant kingdom can also be divided into two groups: flowering and non-flowering plants.
- A classification key can be used to sort and identify living things
- A classification key is a set of questions about the characteristics of living things. Each question can only be answered yes or no

## THE ANIMAL KINGDOM



## WORKING SCIENTIFICALLY



OBSERVING



GROUPING



ASKING QUESTIONS



COLLECTING AND RECORDING DATA

## KEY VOCABULARY



- Organism:** a living thing, animal or plant
- Habitat:** a place where something lives
- Invertebrate:** an animal without a backbone
- Vertebrate:** an animal with a backbone
- Exoskeleton:** a hard external skeleton
- Taxonomy:** the science of classifying and naming organisms

## SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE



**Carl Linnaeus** was a Swedish scientist who developed the science of taxonomy or classification of organisms

## Lesson 1: Who am I?

- I can ask questions that can be used to construct a key.



- A sea cucumber is in fact an animal.
- Scientists believe that there are about 7 million living things that haven't been found yet. Many of them may become extinct (die out) before they can be discovered.
- For every person on Earth, there are 1.5 billion insects.

Did you know?

### Glossary

**Key** – a series of questions that helps identify or group things

**Organism** – a living thing, animal or plant

**Classify** – group things so that they can be identified

**Insect** – animal with 6 legs



There are millions of different **plant and animal species** in the world. It's currently estimated that there are around **1.3 million animal species** (of which **1 million are insects!**) and **320,000 plant species**.



The word 'species' is used to describe a group of living things that are so similar that they are able to interbreed to create a fertile offspring.



**Can you name each organism?**


















**Word bank:**

giraffe

oak tree

frog

betta fish

white dolphin

sycamore leaves

chameleon

peacock



**Guess Who!**

Let's play a question game. Your teacher will write someone's name on a piece of paper and only one of you will read it whilst facing the class. Everybody stands up, and you take turns to ask questions that can be answered by "yes" or "no" to try and find out who the name is. Everyone who doesn't match the answer sits down. For example, "Is it a boy?" "Yes," and all the girls sit down.



Write down three questions that were asked during the game.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_?
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_?
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_?



Using only four pictures of organisms from page 3, write your own questions to identify them in this branching key.

