

Animals without backbones

Animals that do not have backbones are called invertebrates.

✎ Use the word bank to fill in the missing text. Then write your own examples.

Word bank

hollow hard three hard sea five flat tentacles four segments soft spiny

Group	What do I look like?	Examples
Annelida True worms	My body is made up of s_____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Earthworm ● _____ ● _____
Flatworms platyhelminthes	My body is thin and f_____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tapeworm ● _____ ● _____
Cnidaria	My body is h_____ and I have t_____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jellyfish ● _____ ● _____
Crustaceans	I have a h___ chalky outer skeleton.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Crab ● _____ ● _____
Arachnids	I have an outer skeleton and f___ pairs of legs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scorpion ● _____ ● _____
Insects	I have t___ pairs of legs. I also have an exoskeleton.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ant ● _____ ● _____
Centipedes and millipedes	We have lots of pairs of legs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Millipede ● _____ ● _____
Molluscs	I have a s___ body and a h___ shell.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Snail ● _____ ● _____
Spiny-skinned animals Echinoderms	I have thick s_____ skin and live in the s___. My body is divided into f___ parts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starfish ● _____ ● _____

Arthropoda

What am I?

- ☞ Study the boxes below. Each box describes a different animal from a different animal group. Write the animal that each description might belong to.

I use lungs to breathe. I lay my eggs in water and when they hatch they breathe through gills. I do not like the cold and hibernate during the winter.

WHAT AM I?

I have beautiful shiny blue feathers. I can dive into water to catch small fish for my dinner. I lay my eggs in a nest.

WHAT AM I?

I have a soft body without a backbone, My shell protects me. I can live on land and in water. When I crawl on land I leave behind a slimy trail.

WHAT AM I?

I am a small flying creature. I do not have a backbone but have a hard body. I have three pairs of jointed legs. Some people say I can spread diseases.

WHAT AM I?

I have hair on my body and a thick layer of fat under my skin to keep me warm. I do not lay eggs and my young are born alive. Their first food is their mother's milk.

WHAT AM I?

I have a dry scaly skin. As I grow I shed my old skin. I lay soft shelled eggs.

WHAT AM I?

- ☞ Write down descriptions of your favourite animals. Have someone in the class guess what they are.

Classification

Using the word bank provided, complete the following passage.

Word bank
easily millions groups features

There are m _ _ _ _ _ of living organisms in the world. Scientists sort living things into different g _ _ _ _ _ so that they can recognise them more e _ _ _ _ . This is called classification.

Scientists put things into groups according to the number of f _ _ _ _ _ they have in common.

Animals are divided into two main groups: **vertebrates** (animals with a backbone) and **invertebrates** (animals without a backbone). Fill in the table below to find out about the five different vertebrate groups.

Group	Features	Examples
M _ _ _ _ _	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Backbone ● Body covered in h _ _ _ _ ● Feed young on m _ _ _ ● Breathe using l _ _ _ _ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Humans ● _____ ● _____ ● _____
Aves B _ _ d _	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Have f _ _ _ _ _ ● W _ _ _ blooded ● Breathe using l _ _ _ _ ● Lay hard s _ _ _ _ eggs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Crow ● _____ ● _____
R _ p _ _ _ _	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● C _ _ _ blooded ● Have l _ _ _ _ ● S _ _ _ _ cover body ● Lay s _ _ _ _ eggs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Snake ● _____ ● _____
Am _ _ _ bian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cold blooded ● Damp s _ _ _ ● Breathe through s _ _ _ and l _ _ _ _ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Frog ● _____ ● _____
Fi _ _	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● S _ _ _ _ cover body ● Breathe using g _ _ _ _ ● C _ _ _ blooded ● Lay eggs in w _ _ _ _ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cod ● _____ ● _____

