

# Five Classes of Vertebrates

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

Building on the vertebrate/invertebrate lesson, the child learns the five classes of vertebrates: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Each class has unique characteristics.

## What You Need:

- Animal picture cards (3 per class, 15 total)
- Five class label cards
- Chart or poster of vertebrate classes
- Work mat

## Steps:

1. Review: 'Vertebrates have backbones. Today we learn the FIVE groups of vertebrates.'
2. Present each class with picture cards and a key characteristic:
  - Fish: live in water, breathe with gills, have scales
  - Amphibians: live in water AND land, moist skin, start as tadpoles
  - Reptiles: have dry, scaly skin, lay eggs on land
  - Birds: have feathers, lay eggs, most can fly
  - Mammals: have hair/fur, mothers make milk, born alive (mostly)
3. Sing or chant the five classes.
4. Sort animal cards into five groups.

## Work Space:



