

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:

A large, dashed rectangular border occupies the bottom half of the page, intended for children to draw or write in.

Montessori Homeschool • Print on US Letter (8.5 x 11") • Activity sheet — print on standard paper