Features	Porifera (Sponges)	Coelenterata (Cnidaria)	Platyhelminthes (Flatworms)	Nematoda (Roundworms)	Annelida (Segmented Worms)	Arthropoda (Jointed Feet)	Mollusca	Echinodermata
Habitat	Aquatic, sessile, mostly marine , few are fresh water	Aquatic, Some of these species live in colonies (corals), while others have a solitary like–span (Hydra)	Parasitic, some free living e.g. Planaria	Free living or parasitic	Aquatic or terrestrial	Widespread, This is the largest phylum of Animalia which includes insects	Aquatic or terrestrial	Aquatic (marine)
Body Organization	Cellular	Tissue	Organ	Organ System	Organ System	Organ System	Organ System	Organ System
Symmetry	Asymmetrical	Radial Symmetry	Bilateral	Bilateral	Bilateral	Bilateral	Bilateral	Adult- radially symmetrical larvae - bilaterally symmetrical
Germ Layers	Diploblastic	Diploblastic	Triploblastic	Triploblastic	Triploblastic	Triploblastic	Triploblastic	Triploblastic
Coelom	Absent	Absent	Absent	Pseudocoelomates	Coelomate	Coelomate (Haemocoel)	Coelomate	Coelomate
Special Features	water transport or canal system, Water enters through minute pores (ostia) in the body wall into a central cavity (spongocoel-lined by choanocytes or collar cells) to bring in food and oxygen, body is supported by a skeleton made up of spicules or spongin fibres	The name cnidaria is derived from the cnidoblasts or cnidocytes (which contain the stinging capsules or nematocytes) present on the tentacles and the body - used for anchorage, defense and for the capture of prey	Hooks and suckers are present in the parasitic forms, Specialised cells called flame cells help in osmoregulation and excretion	These are very familiar as parasitic worms causing diseases, such as the worms causing elephantiasis (filarial worms) or the worms in the intestines (roundworm or pinworms	Their body surface is distinctly marked out into segments or metameres, Nephridia (sing. nephridium) help in osmoregulation and excretion	The body of arthropods is covered by chitinous exoskeleton. The body consists of head, thorax and abdomen. They have jointed appendages , Excretion takes place through malpighian tubules, There is an open circulatory system, and so the blood does not flow in well defined blood vessels. The coelomic cavity is blood-filled	They have an open circulatory system and kidney-like organs for excretion, soft bodied animals with protective calcareous shell	The most distinctive feature of echinoderms is the presence of water vascular system which helps in locomotion, capture and transport of food and respiration
Examples	Sycon ,(Spongilla (Fresh water sponge) and Euspongia (Bath sponge), Euplectella	Jellyfish, Physalia (Portuguese man-of-war), Adamsia (Sea anemone)	Taenia (Tapeworm), Fasciola (Liver fluke), Planaria	Ascaris (Round Worm), Wuchereria (Filaria worm), Ancylostoma (Hookworm)	Nereis, Pheretima (Earthworm)	prawns, butterflies, houseflies, spiders, scorpions, mosquito, honey and crabs	Snails, mussels, pila, octopus	Asterias (Star fish), Echinus (Sea urchin), Antedon (Sea lily), Cucumaria (Sea cucumber)