

# VERTEBRATES AND INVERTEBRATES

YI  
 Kingdom: "Animalia"  
 Phylum: "Chordata"  
 Class  
 Order  
 Family  
 Genus  
 Species

The major characteristic that divides the animal kingdom is a backbone. It divides animals into two main groups called vertebrates and invertebrates.

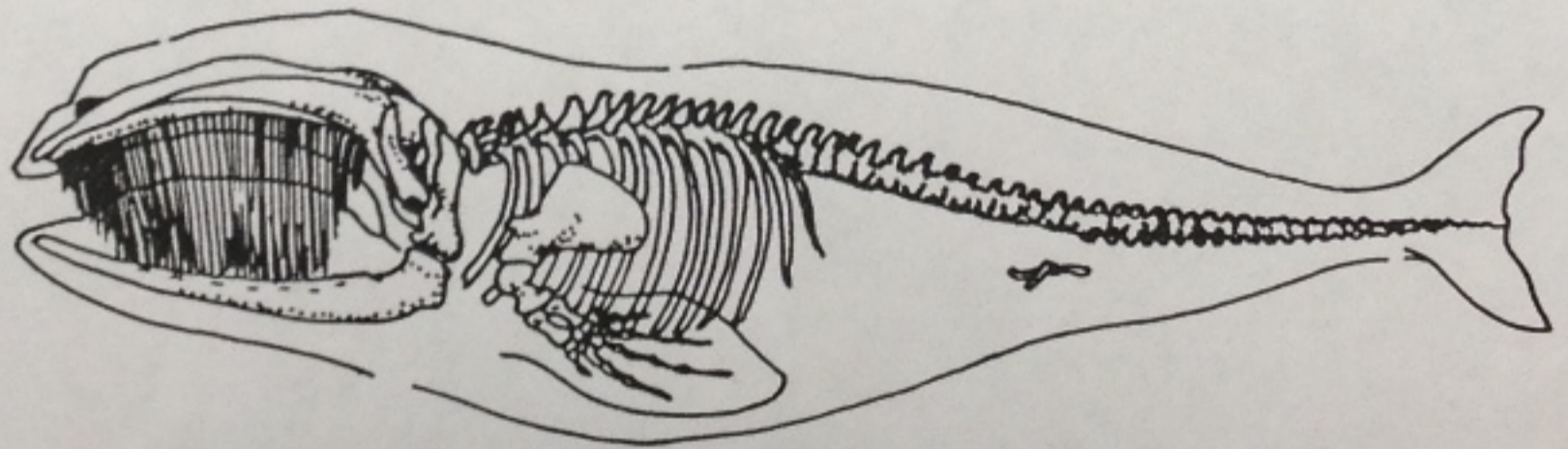


Invertebrates are animals without backbones. This group includes the amoeba, sponges, worms, centipedes, starfish, mollusks, and insects. There are many more invertebrates than vertebrates. In fact, invertebrates make up about 90 percent of all animals.

Vertebrates are animals with backbones that surround their nerve cords. The nerve cord is found along the back of an animal. Small bones, called vertebrae, make up the backbone.

The bodies of most vertebrates have a head and a trunk. Many vertebrates have two pairs of limbs attached to the trunk. A person's limbs are arms and legs. What are a bird's limbs?

The ribs and bones which support the limbs are connected to the backbone. These bones give the body its shape and make up the skeleton.



## ACTIVITY

There are five classes of vertebrates.

1.

4.

2.

5.

3.

List at least five classes of invertebrates.

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Using the list below, fill in the chart with the appropriate number.

1. Hops; has four legs
2. Lays soft eggs on land
3. Insects, worms berries, seeds
4. Deserts, forests
5. Migrates short distances
6. Crawls on belly
7. Queen lays thousands of eggs
8. Lizards, insects, small snakes
9. Poisonous; feeds mainly at night
10. May capture prey by distracting it
11. Swims using fins
12. Can change color to match background
13. Ponds, marshes, streams
14. Small mollusks, worms, small crabs
15. Hedgerows, shrubs, farms, and gardens
16. Lays eggs in water
17. Can see in ultraviolet 'color'
18. Has 6 legs; walks, flies
19. Gives birth to live young
20. Wooded or bushy areas
21. Pollen and nectar
22. Lays eggs in water
23. Flies; walks on two legs
24. Hibernates in winter
25. Fields, flower gardens
26. Lays hard-shelled eggs in a nest
27. Rats, mice, rabbits, squirrels
28. Saltwater or freshwater
29. Insects, spiders, earthworms
30. Walks and runs on four legs

ANIMAL	Movement	Reproduction	Food	Living Space	Response to Environment
Bullfrog					
Blackbird					
Flounder					
Honeybee					
Coral Snake					
Red Fox					