

Animal Classification (directions)

Directions: The science of naming and classifying animals and other living things is called *taxonomy*.

There are several different levels of scientific classification between the animal kingdom and an animal species. One large group of animals is called vertebrates. These are animals with a backbone.

There are five major groups of vertebrates. These animals are very familiar to you. Each group shares major features—like feathers or fur.

Print out the worksheet. Then, write the names of the different animals in the correct column according to how they are classified.

When you have classified all the animals, check your answers using the answer key. Did you get them all correct?

Reptile: Iguana, Snake, Crocodile, Chameleon, Turtle

Mammal: Hippopotamus, Bear, Kangaroo, Mouse, Lion, Orca

Fish: Blenny, Trout, Pacific Blue Tang, Shark, Tuna

Bird: Ostrich, Stork, Pigeon, Cardinal, Owl, Penguin

Amphibian: Frog, Axolotl

Answer key