

Where Do I Belong?

Florida Sunshine State Standard Benchmark: SC.F.1.2.3 - The student knows that living things are different but share similar structures.

Overview:

Living things may be different yet share similar structures. This is the case with the five groups of vertebrates. Mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, and reptiles make up this grouping. Mammals are vertebrates that feed milk to their young and have fur or hair. Most mammals grow inside their mother and are born alive; the duckbill platypus is an exception to this rule. Their babies are hatched from eggs. Examples of mammals are apes, lions, dogs, elephants, kangaroos, squirrels and whales. Birds are vertebrates that have wings and are covered with feathers. They lay eggs from which their young hatch. Examples of birds are the hummingbird, ostrich, and parrot. An amphibian is a vertebrate that usually lives in water after hatching from an egg but, as an adult, can live on land. Amphibians hatch from jelly-coated eggs. The young usually do not look anything like their parents; they start life with gills and breathe like fish. As they grow, they lose their gills and breathe with lungs. Examples of amphibians include frogs, toads and salamanders. Fish are vertebrates that live in water. Most fish lay eggs from which their young will hatch. Examples of fish include trout, grouper, snapper, tuna, and clown fish. In this activity students will group pictures of animals according to their classification and then discuss the similarities and differences of each.

Time Frame: 60 minutes

Materials:

Classification paper
4 or 5 magazines (with animal pictures) per group
1 pair of scissors per student
1 plastic bag per student



Procedure:

1. Divide class into groups of four.
2. Pass out magazines to each group.

3. Students will cut out pictures of five mammals, five birds, five reptiles, five amphibians, and five fish.
4. Place pictures in a plastic bag.
5. Groups will switch bags.
6. Explain that they need to sort the pictures into the five animal vertebrate groupings.
7. Distribute the activity sheet.
8. Discuss the point system (mammals 1 point, birds 2 points, fish 3 points, reptiles 4 points, and amphibians 5 points).
9. Have students predict how many points they will score.
10. Record the information on the activity sheet.
11. Classify pictures into the five groups (the teacher should check to see if they are correct).
12. Count the total points to get your score.

Assessment:

- Make a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting characteristics.
- Vertebrate classification sheet

Home Learning:

Have the students cut out more pictures and sort the mammals into various categories.

Extensions:

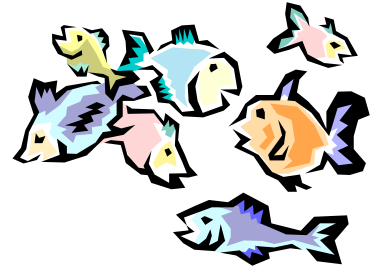
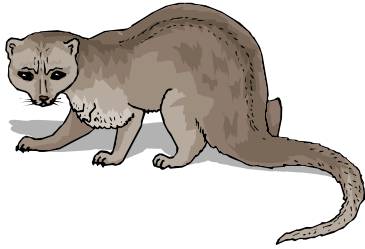
Prompt: There are five subgroups of vertebrates. Explain to your reader why these five are grouped together.



Where Do I Belong Activity Sheet

Name: _____

Date: _____



Groups	Predictions	Number of pictures found	Total
Mammals		_____ X 1	
Birds		_____ X 2	
Fish		_____ X 3	
Reptiles		_____ X 4	
Amphibians		_____ X 5	

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Vertebrate Classification

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions:

Complete the chart below classifying the five groups of vertebrates and list five characteristics of each.

Vertebrate Classification

Mammal Characteristics	Bird Characteristics	Fish Characteristics	Reptile Characteristics	Amphibian Characteristics
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1.

2.

3.

4.

5.