Science

Level: Standard 2

Strand: Individual and Groups

Topic: Classes of Vertebrates

Key points:

- Vertebrates are animals that have a backbone inside their body.
- The major groups of vertebrates include fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals.

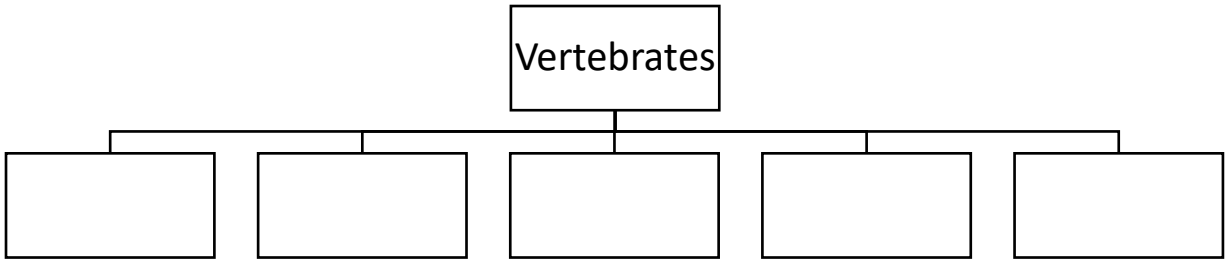
Activity: Complete the table below where spaces are blank

Characteristics of Vertebrates

	How it Breathes	Body Covering	Born Alive or Eggs	Warm or Cold Blooded	Something that makes them distinctive
Amphibians	Gills as tadpoles, lungs as frogs		Eggs	Cold	
Birds		Feathers		Warm	Most can fly. All have wings.
Fish	Gills		Eggs	Cold	
Mammals		Skin and fur (or hair)		Warm	Give birth to live, fully developed young. Suckle young. Mammary glands.
Reptiles	Lungs		Eggs	Cold	

Assessment:

(i) Complete the following classification below.



(ii) Animals that have a backbone are known as:

(a) Arthropods

(b) Invertebrates

(c) Animals

(d) Vertebrates

(iii) Which class of animal has skin, with fur or hair and feeds their young milk?

(a) Birds

(b) Mammals

(c) Fish

(d) Reptiles

(iv) Which class of animals has skin with scales and lays eggs with a leathery shell?

(a) Amphibians

(b) Birds

(c) Reptiles

(d) Mammals

(v) Which of the following animals is an amphibian?

(a) Frog (b) Snake

(c) Crocodile (d) Lizard

(vi) Which class of animals has skin with feathers, wings for flying and lays eggs with a hard shell?

(a) Mammals (b) Amphibians

(c) Birds (c) Reptiles

Answer Key:

Activity:

Characteristics of Vertebrates

	How it Breathes	Body Covering	Born Alive or Eggs	Warm or Cold Blooded	Something that makes them distinctive
Amphibians	Gills as tadpoles, lungs as frogs	Slimy wet skin (moist)	Eggs	Cold	Can live on land and in water
Birds	Lungs	Feathers	Eggs	Warm	Most can fly. All have wings.
Fish	Gills	Scales	Eggs	Cold	Breathe under water. Fins for locomotion.
Mammals	Lungs	Skin and fur (or hair)	Alive. Except the platypus!	Warm	Give birth to live, fully developed young. Suckle young. Mammary glands.
Reptiles	Lungs	Scaly skin	Eggs	Cold	Have scaly skin.

Assessment:

(i) (d)

(ii) fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals

(iii) (b)

(iv) (c)

(v) (a)

(vi) (c)

Reference:

- http://wsparrow.blogspot.com/2014/08/characteristics-of-vertebrates-worksheet.html