

THE SIX KINGDOMS OF LIFE

Classifying Plants and Animals

Scientists classify plants and animals according to the structures and characteristics of each organism. They compare and contrast organisms, and those with similar structures and characteristics are grouped together.

The **characteristics** that scientists consider when classifying plants and animals are:

- how many cells in the organism
- if the cell(s) contains a nucleus
- how the organism obtains food
- how it moves.



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Lesson Checkpoint:
Why do scientists classify organisms?

Order of Classifications

The order within the six Kingdom classification system is Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, and Species. The Kingdom is the largest group of organisms, and Species is the smallest group of organisms.

Lesson Checkpoint:
Think of a fun way to memorize the correct order of classification: Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, and Species.

Kingdom: ANIMAL

Number of cells:	multicellular
Have nucleus?	yes
How obtains food:	have to find own food
Movement:	can move on own
Example:	bear

Kingdom: PLANT

Number of cells:	multicellular
Have nucleus?	yes
How obtains food:	can make own food
Example:	rose

Kingdom: FUNGI

Number of cells:	
Have nucleus?	
How obtains food:	
Example:	




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Kingdom: PROTISTS

Number of cells:	most are one cell
Have nucleus?	yes
How obtains food:	some make their own, some have to get their own food
Example:	algae

Kingdom: EUBACTERIA

Number of cells:	one
Have nucleus?	no
How obtains food:	some make their own/some have to get their own food
Environment:	everywhere: all around us

Kingdom: ARCHAEBACTERIA

Number of cells:	one
Have nucleus?	no
How obtains food:	make their own food
Environment:	harsh: salty, hot even with no sunshine or oxygen

*Lesson Checkpoint:
How do plants obtain food?*

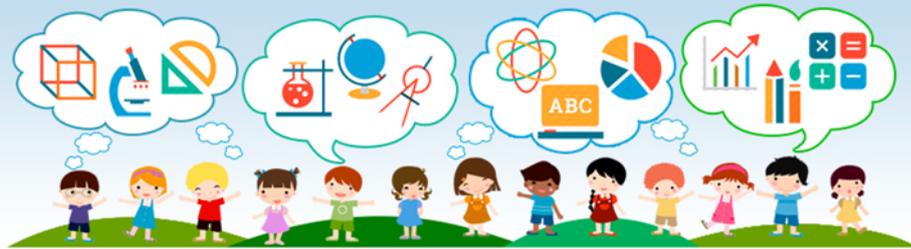
So many animals...

After being placed in the animal kingdom, animals are then placed into a phylum group. The **chordata** is a phylum that includes animals with **backbones**.

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Mammals are warm-blooded organisms that have body hair and produce milk for their young. They also breathe air with their lungs. An example of a mammal is a dog.



*Lesson Checkpoint:
How do reptiles breathe?*

Invertebrates are classified into phyla based on their structure and characteristics, such as mollusks, annelids, cnidarians, arthropods, sponges, and echinoderms.

- **Mollusks** have soft bodies and most mollusks have shells. Snails and clams are types of mollusks.

An illustration showing a row of diverse children standing on a green patch of grass. Above them are four thought bubbles containing various educational icons: a 3D cube, a microscope, a protractor, a globe, a chemistry flask, a pencil, a bar graph, a pie chart, a bar chart with an upward arrow, and a calculator. The word 'PREVIEW' is written in large, bold, blue and orange letters below the children. Below the preview text, it says 'Please Sign In or Sign Up to download the printable version of this worksheet'.

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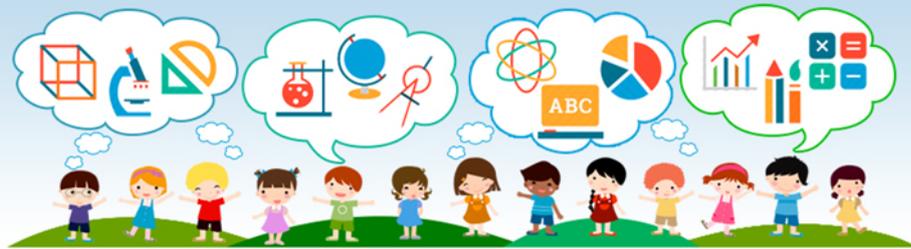
- **Arthropods** are the largest animal phylum. Arthropods have segmented bodies and jointed legs. Insects are included in the arthropod grouping.

Lesson Checkpoint:
What do all cnidarians have in common?

Classification of Plants

Now we can't forget about **plants**. Four well-known plant phyla include flowering plants, mosses, ferns, and conifers.

Flowering plants are vascular, produce seeds, and produce flowers (obviously by their name).



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Fern
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Mosses do not flower, they do not produce seeds, and they are not vascular.



Conifers do not flower, they reproduce using cones and seeds, and they are vascular. Conifers have needles instead of leaves, such as pine trees.

A row of ten diverse children standing on a green patch of grass. Above them are four thought bubbles containing various educational icons: a cube, a microscope, a protractor, a globe, a chemistry flask, a DNA helix, a pie chart, a bar graph, and a calculator. The word 'PREVIEW' is written in large, bold, blue and orange letters below the children. Below the preview box, there is a small image of a pine tree.

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*Lesson Checkpoint:
What does vascular mean?*

