

Name: _____

Vertebrates and Invertebrates

By Lill Pluta

Vertebrates have backbones or spines, in other words. Some of them are mammals, and some are fish or birds. Amphibians and reptiles complete the beastly list. All have endoskeletons. Their bones help them exist.



Preview

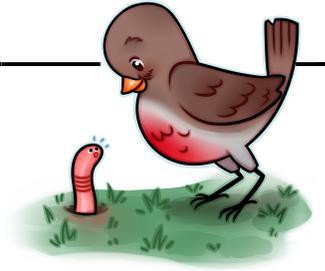
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Echinoderms and squid.
Some have exoskeletons.
The soft ones wish they did.

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1. Based on what you learned from the poem, what do vertebrates have that invertebrates do not have?

2. Sort all of the organisms in the box below into the "Vertebrates" or "Invertebrates" table, using the information from the poem to guide you.



Preview

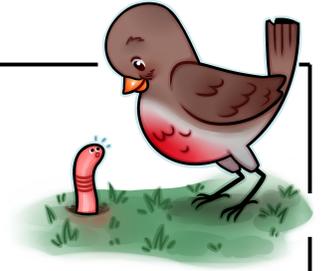
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3. Do all invertebrates have exoskeletons? If yes, why? If no, give an example of an invertebrate that doesn't have an exoskeleton.

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Choose any animal. First tell whether it is a vertebrate or invertebrate. Then, with a parent or teacher's permission, use the Internet to find three interesting facts about the animals you chose. List your source for each fact.

The animal I chose is _____.

Is this animal a vertebrate or an invertebrate? _____

Interesting Fact #1: _____



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source: _____

Interesting Fact #3: _____

source: _____

ANSWER KEY

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1. Based on what you learned from the poem, what do vertebrates have that invertebrates do not have?

Acceptable answers: Vertebrates have a backbone, or spine, and

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No, all invertebrates do not have exoskeletons. A worm does not have an exoskeleton.