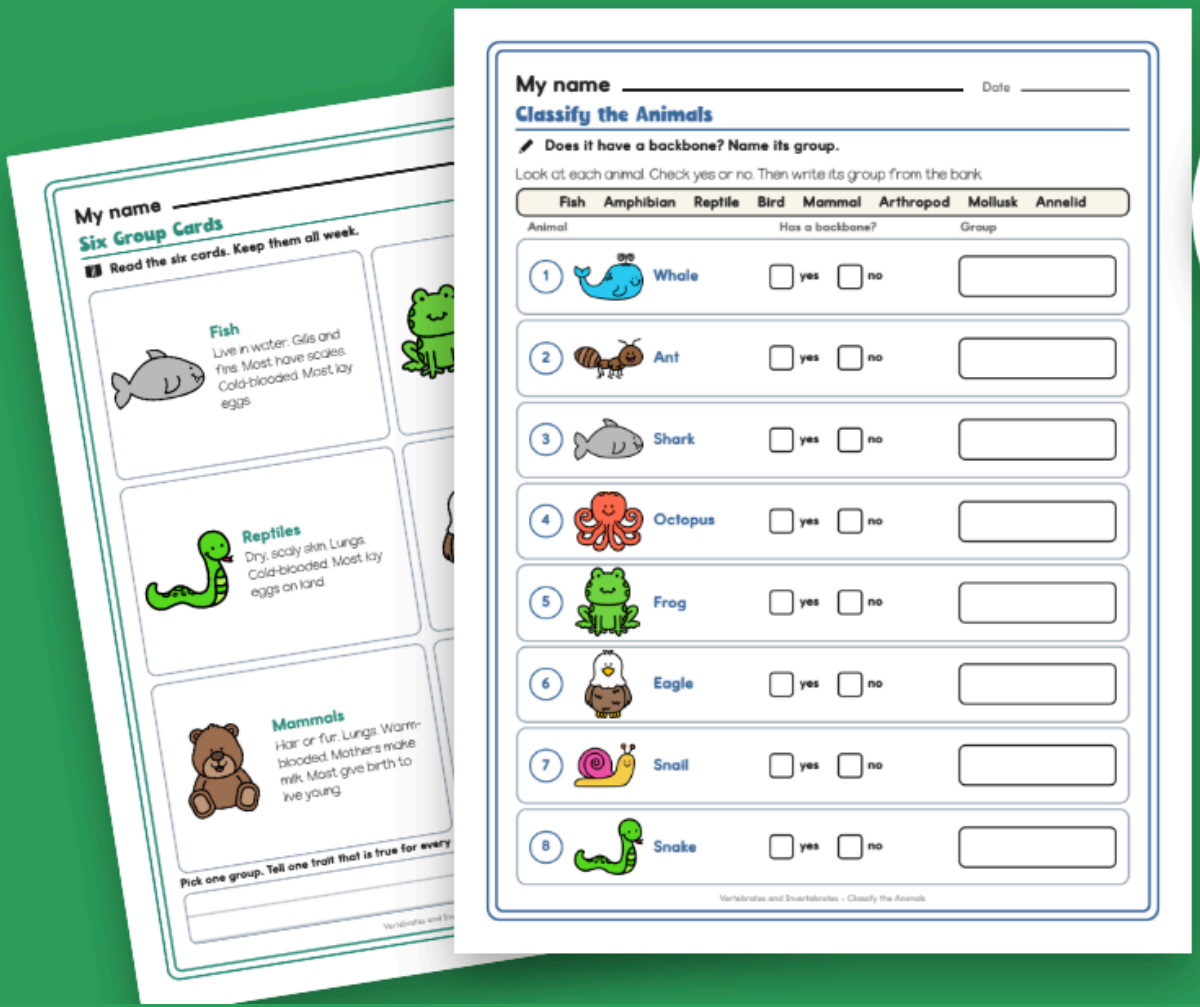
VERTEBRATES & INVERTEBRATES

WORKSHEETS
GRADES 6-8



26 STUDENT PAGES

Bright Path Sped

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This is a fillable PDF

- Open it in a PDF reader (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview, or your browser), click into a line or a box, type, and Save As.
- The name line, every answer box, every ruled work box and every check box on the student pages are type-in fields, and so are the tracker, class grid, team note and family page. You can also print any page and write by hand.
- It works offline. No account, no subscription, no internet connection needed after you download it.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the ruled lines stay 0.34 inch apart. Every student page has a colored border and a few colored animal pictures, so it still reads when copied in black and white.

Student work

A filled-in tracker, class grid or team note carries a real student's name. Keep it in the data folder, and use a first name only on any page that leaves your hands.

Need help?

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PREVIEW

How To Read a Page

The parts of a student page, then the kinds of sheet in the order they come.

The parts of a page

- **The answer box.** A bordered box for a letter, a word or a group name. Click it to type, or print and write in it.
- **The ruled work box.** Lines 0.34 inch apart for sentences. Write one idea to a line.
- **The check box.** True or false, yes or no, yes or not yet: click or mark.
- **The word bank.** The words for the blanks. One word is left over on each guided notes page.
- **The cut line.** Pieces are 2.4 by 1.15 inches in a grid three across, edge to edge: a few straight cuts.

Kind of sheet	How many	What the student does
Guided notes	3 sheets, 24 blanks	Fill in the blanks from a word bank.
Readings and cards	4 sheets, 9 items	Read, answer, and keep the six group cards to look things up.
Words and charts	5 sheets	Match words, try a worked example, classify animals, fill in two charts.
Name the group	2 sheets, 14 items	Use clues to name a group.
Sorts	4 sheets, 27 pieces	Cut and paste animals and traits into their groups.
True or false and quizzes	4 sheets, 24 items	Check sentences, fix false ones, answer two quizzes.
Mistakes, writing, self check	4 sheets	Find Sam's mistakes; answer in full sentences; check your own work.

PREVIEW

Untimed, unscored on the page

No student page has a timer or a score on it. The keys and the tracker are for you. The answer keys are on pages 31 to 34.

Short answers

Their keys (page 34) say what to look for, not one right sentence. Accept any answer that uses a fact from the readings or the cards.

Printing and the type-in fields

Every page prints clean in black and white. Each answer box, ruled box and check box is a type-in field: click, type, then save. This is a fillable PDF, not a slideshow.

Room to work

Work boxes hold three or four lines. If a student needs more room, let them write on scrap paper and copy their best sentence into the box.

My name _____ Date _____

Guided Notes 1: Backbone or Not

Fill in each blank. Use the word bank.

Sort animals by what they share. The first question is the backbone.

exoskeleton	**vertebrate**	**cold-blooded**	**vertebrae**	**habitat**
invertebrate	**warm-blooded**	**endoskeleton**	**classify**	

1. A _____ is an animal that has a backbone.

2. An _____ is an animal that has no backbone.

3. The backbone is a column of small bones called _____.

4. A skeleton inside the body is called an _____.

5. A hard covering on the outside of the body is an _____.

6. A _____ animal keeps a steady body temperature.

7. A _____ animal has a body temperature that changes with its surroundings.

8. To _____ is to sort living things into groups by what they share.

Why might a backbone be useful to an animal? Write one idea.

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Guided Notes 3: Invertebrate Groups

Fill in each blank. Use the word bank.

Five groups have no backbone. Fill in what makes each group special.

segments six backbone shell exoskeleton

cnidarians eight echinoderm foot

1. Arthropods have jointed legs and an _____.
2. An insect has _____ legs and three body parts.
3. A spider has _____ legs.
4. Mollusks have a soft body, and many have a hard _____.
5. A snail moves on one muscular _____.
6. An earthworm is an annelid. Its body is made of _____.
7. Jellyfish are _____. They have tentacles with stinging cells.
8. A sea star is an _____. It has spiny skin and tube feet.

Pick one group. Name it and write an animal that belongs to it.

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Reading 2: Five Groups of Vertebrates

Read about vertebrates. Then answer.

From fish to mammals

Fish live in water, breathe with gills and swim with fins. Most have scales and are cold-blooded. **Amphibians**, such as frogs, have smooth, moist skin. Young amphibians usually live in water and breathe with gills, and most adults breathe with lungs and through their skin. **Reptiles**, such as snakes and turtles, have dry, scaly skin and lungs, and most lay eggs on land. **Birds** have feathers and wings, are warm-blooded and lay hard-shelled eggs. **Mammals** have hair or fur, breathe with lungs and are warm-blooded. Mothers make milk, and most mammals give birth to live young. Whales live in water, but they are mammals, not fish.

Main idea: What is this reading mostly about?

Check what you read. Write the letter in the box.

1 Which group has smooth, moist skin and usually starts life in water?

A Amphibians
B Reptiles
C Fish

2 Which group makes milk to feed its young?

A Birds
B Reptiles
C Mammals

3 Why is a whale a mammal and not a fish?

A It lives in the ocean
B It breathes air with lungs and feeds its young milk
C It breathes with gills

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Animal Words

Match each word to what it means.

Write the letter of the meaning in the box. Use the readings to help you.

1	**vertebrate**		A	Keeps a steady body temperature.
2	**invertebrate**		B	The small bones that make up the backbone.
3	**vertebrae**		C	Has a body temperature that changes with its surroundings.
4	**exoskeleton**		D	An animal that has a backbone.
5	**warm-blooded**		E	A hard covering on the outside of the body.
6	**cold-blooded**		F	An animal that has no backbone.

Use two of the words in one sentence about animals.

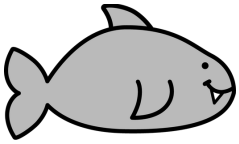
PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Six Group Cards

Read the six cards. Keep them all week.



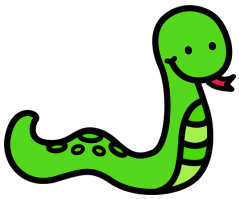
Fish

Live in water. Gills and fins. Most have scales. Cold-blooded. Most lay eggs.



Amphibians

Smooth, moist skin. Young breathe with gills; most adults use lungs and skin. Cold-blooded.



Reptiles

Dry, scaly skin. Lungs. Cold-blooded. Most lay eggs on land.



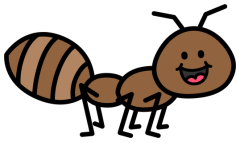
Birds

Feathers and wings. Lungs. Warm-blooded. Lay hard-shelled eggs.



Mammals

Hair or fur. Lungs. Warm-blooded. Mothers make milk. Most give birth to live young.



Invertebrates

No backbone. Arthropods, mollusks, annelids, cnidarians and echinoderms.

Pick one group. Tell one trait that is true for every animal in it.

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Chart: Vertebrate Groups

Fill in the chart. Use the word bank.

The first row is done for you. Fill in the rest. You may use a word more than once.

live young **gills** **feathers** **scales** **warm-blooded**

lungs **eggs on land** **dry scales** **cold-blooded** **moist skin**

gills, then lungs **hair or fur** **eggs in water** **hard-shelled eggs**

Group	Body covering	Breathes with	Body temperature	Young
Fish	scales	gills	cold-blooded	eggs in water
Amphibians				
Reptiles				
Birds				
Mammals				

Which two groups are warm-blooded?

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Which Group Am I?

Write the letter of the group.

Which group is the animal in? Write the letter from the word bank.

A. Fish B. Amphibian C. Reptile D. Bird E. Mammal

1. I have dry, scaly skin and lungs. I lay eggs on land, and my body temperature changes with my surroundings. ☐

2. I have gills and fins and I live in water. ☐

3. I have feathers and wings, and I lay eggs with hard shells. ☐

4. I have smooth, moist skin. I started life in water and breathed with gills. ☐

5. I have hair, I am warm-blooded, and my mother makes milk for me. ☐

6. I am a turtle. I have lungs and a hard shell, and I am cold-blooded. ☐

Pick one animal. Tell the clue that helped you.

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Cut and Paste 2: Mammal, Bird, Reptile

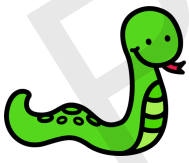
Cut out the pieces. Paste each one in the right box.

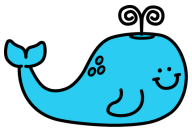
Look at each animal. Which group does it belong to?

Mammals	Birds	Reptiles

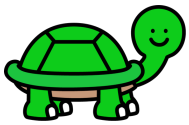
PREVIEW

Cut on the dashed lines: six pieces, one cut across and two cuts down.


Snake


Whale


Duck


Turtle


Rabbit


Eagle

Which animal surprised you? Why?

My name _____ Date _____

Cut and Paste 4: Invertebrate Groups

Cut out the pieces. Paste each one in the right box.

Read each piece. Which group does it describe?

Arthropods	Mollusks	Echinoderms

Cut on the dashed lines: six pieces, one cut across and two cuts down.

Soft body, and many have a shell	Jointed legs and an exoskeleton	Spiny skin and tube feet
Snails, clams and octopuses	Sea stars and sea urchins	Insects, spiders and crabs

Which piece told you the most? Why?

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

True or False 2

Is it true or false? Check one.

Check true or false for each sentence.

7. A whale is a fish because it lives in water. ☐ true ☐ false

8. Most reptiles lay eggs on land. ☐ true ☐ false

9. An adult frog never uses lungs. ☐ true ☐ false

10. Spiders have eight legs. ☐ true ☐ false

11. A snail is an arthropod. ☐ true ☐ false

12. Sea stars and sea urchins are echinoderms. ☐ true ☐ false

Pick one false sentence. Fix it so it is true.

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Quiz B

Pick the best answer. Write its letter.

Take your time. Guess if you are not sure.

7 Which two groups are warm-blooded?

A Fish and reptiles
B Birds and mammals
C Amphibians and reptiles

8 Which animal is an arthropod?

A A spider
B A snail
C An earthworm

9 Which invertebrate group has tentacles with stinging cells?

A Echinoderms
B Annelids
C Cnidarians

10 An octopus has a soft body and no backbone. Which group is it in?

A Arthropods
B Mollusks
C Mammals

11 Which animal starts life in water and can live on land as an adult?

A A snake
B A shark
C A frog

12 Which description fits a mammal?

A Has hair or fur and feeds its young milk
B Has dry scales and lays eggs on land
C Has gills and fins

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Short Answers 2

Answer each question in sentences.

Use facts from the readings and the cards. Write in sentences.

4 How are an insect and a spider alike, and how are they different?

5 Pick one invertebrate group. Name it, tell one thing about its body and give an example.

6 Explain why a frog is an amphibian and not a reptile.

PREVIEW

Answer Key: Notes, Readings, Words

Guided Notes 1: Backbone or Not page 5

Blank	Answer
5.1	vertebrate
5.2	invertebrate
5.3	vertebrae
5.4	endoskeleton
5.5	exoskeleton
5.6	warm-blooded
5.7	cold-blooded
5.8	classify

Guided Notes 2: Vertebrate Groups page 6

Blank	Answer
6.1	fins
6.2	amphibian
6.3	scaly
6.4	feathers
6.5	warm-blooded
6.6	milk
6.7	lungs
6.8	cold-blooded

Animal Words page 11

Word	Letter	Meaning
1. vertebrate	D	an animal that has a backbone
2. invertebrate	F	an animal that has no backbone
3. vertebrae	B	the small bones that make up the backbone
4. exoskeleton	E	a hard covering on the outside of the body
5. warm-blooded	A	keeps a steady body temperature
6. cold-blooded	C	has a body temperature that changes with its surroundings

Guided Notes 3: Invertebrate Groups page 7

Blank	Answer
7.1	exoskeleton
7.2	six
7.3	eight
7.4	shell
7.5	foot
7.6	segments
7.7	cnidarians
7.8	echinoderm

Readings pages 8, 9, 10

Item	Letter	Answer
8.1	A	An animal that has a backbone
8.2	B	The small bones that make up the backbone
8.3	A	An insect
9.1	A	Amphibians
9.2	C	Mammals
9.3	B	It breathes air with lungs and feeds its young milk
10.1	C	Arthropods
10.2	B	A sea star
10.3	A	Many rings, or segments

PREVIEW

Answer Key: Checks and Mistakes

Sam in Find the Mistake is invented. Accept any wording that fixes a false sentence or a mistake.

True or False pages 23, 24

Item	Answer	The fix
23.1	True	-
23.2	False	An invertebrate has no backbone.
23.3	False	Most animal species are invertebrates.
23.4	True	-
23.5	False	Birds are warm-blooded.
23.6	True	-
24.1	False	A whale is a mammal. It breathes air with lungs and feeds its young milk.
24.2	True	-
24.3	False	Most adult amphibians breathe with lungs and through their skin.
24.4	True	-
24.5	False	A snail is a mollusk.
24.6	True	-

Quizzes pages 25, 26

Item	Letter	Answer
25.1	A	A backbone
25.2	C	A jellyfish
25.3	B	Birds
25.4	C	Fish
25.5	B	An exoskeleton
25.6	A	A snake
26.1	B	Birds and mammals
26.2	A	A spider
26.3	C	Cnidarians
26.4	B	Mollusks
26.5	C	A frog
26.6	A	Has hair or fur and feeds its young milk

Find the Mistake page 27

Item	What went wrong	Right sentence
27.1	Legs do not decide it. A snake has a backbone, so it is a vertebrate.	A snake has a backbone, so it is a vertebrate. It is a reptile.
27.2	Where an animal lives does not decide its group. A whale breathes air with lungs and feeds its young milk.	A whale is a mammal.
27.3	Insects have six legs. Spiders have eight.	Insects have six legs and three body parts.
27.4	Many animals lay eggs. A frog has smooth, moist skin and starts life in water, so it is an amphibian.	A frog is an amphibian.

PREVIEW

Vertebrates and Invertebrates Tracker

One student, every scored sheet. Filled example: page 39.

Student _____ Teacher _____ Month _____

Page	Page type and set	Items	Right	Date	Notes
5	Guided Notes 1: Backbone or Not	8			
6	Guided Notes 2: Vertebrate Groups	8			
7	Guided Notes 3: Invertebrate Groups	8			
8	Reading 1: With or Without a Backbone	3			
9	Reading 2: Five Groups of Vertebrates	3			
10	Reading 3: Five Groups of Invertebrates	3			
11	Animal Words	6			
14	Classify the Animals	8			
15	Chart: Vertebrate Groups	16			
16	Chart: Invertebrate Groups	8			
17	Who Am I?	8			
18	Which Group Am I?	6			
19	Cut and Paste 1: Backbone or Not	9			
20	Cut and Paste 2: Mammal, Bird, Reptile	6			
21	Cut and Paste 3: Fish, Amphibian, Mammal	6			
22	Cut and Paste 4: Invertebrate Groups	6			
23	True or False 1	6			
24	True or False 2	6			
25	Quiz A	6			
26	Quiz B	6			
27	Find the Mistake	4			

How to fill this in

Write how many items the student got right with no prompt, and the date. A blank means not tried yet, never wrong. There are 140 items on the 21 scored sheets. Answer keys: pages 31 to 34. Filled example: page 39.

This month we are working on (your own standard or wording)

PREVIEW

Team Note

Use this page between team meetings or when a student moves classes, to hand off what changed without writing a note from scratch. Everything below is observable, with a blank for the number or the wording your team already uses.

Student _____ Team member _____ Date _____

Kind of sheet	Covered since last note (Y/N)	Items right	Still blank
Notes			
Readings			
Charts			
Name the group			
True or false			
Quizzes			
Mistakes			
Sorts			

What I saw (observable, not a conclusion)

- Filled in ___ of 24 guided-notes blanks (pages 5 to 7).
- Classified ___ of 8 animals correctly (page 14).
- Got ___ of 12 true or false sentences right (pages 23, 24).
- Explained one group in a complete sentence: yes / no / with a reminder.

Next step

- Next page or set: ___, because ___ (what you saw).
- What to try in another class or at home: ___.
- What to keep doing because it is working: ___.
- Anything for the team meeting to decide: ___ (this page records what happened, never a label or a plan).

Summary, in one or two sentences, for whoever reads this next

A filled-in line, for reference

"Got 5 of 6 true or false sentences right on 10/16. Next step: reread Reading 1 and ask which group has most of the animal species." That is the level of detail this page is built for. It matches the filled example on page 39.

PREVIEW

Eli's Tracker (Invented Student)

Eli T. is invented; nothing on this page describes a real student. The blank tracker is on page 35.

Student	Teacher	Month
Eli T. (an invented student)	Ms. Park (invented)	October

Page	Page type and set	Items	Right	Date	Notes
5	Guided Notes 1: Backbone or Not	8	7	10/6	Mixed up endoskeleton and exoskeleton
6	Guided Notes 2: Vertebrate Groups	8	-	-	-
7	Guided Notes 3: Invertebrate Groups	8	-	-	-
8	Reading 1: With or Without a Backbone	3	3	10/7	-
9	Reading 2: Five Groups of Vertebrates	3	2	10/8	Mixed up amphibians and reptiles
10	Reading 3: Five Groups of Invertebrates	3	-	-	-
11	Animal Words	6	5	10/9	Swapped vertebrae and vertebrate
14	Classify the Animals	8	6	10/13	Called the whale a fish
15	Chart: Vertebrate Groups	16	-	-	-
16	Chart: Invertebrate Groups	8	-	-	-
17	Who Am I?	8	6	10/14	Missed the mollusk and echinoderm clues
18	Which Group Am I?	6	4	10/15	Said the turtle was an amphibian
19	Cut and Paste 1: Backbone or Not	9	9	10/22	-
20	Cut and Paste 2: Mammal, Bird, Reptile	6	-	-	-
21	Cut and Paste 3: Fish, Amphibian, Mammal	6	-	-	-
22	Cut and Paste 4: Invertebrate Groups	6	-	-	-
23	True or False 1	6	5	10/16	Thought most animals have a backbone
24	True or False 2	6	-	-	-
25	Quiz A	6	5	10/20	Thought a bear is cold-blooded
26	Quiz B	6	-	-	-
27	Find the Mistake	4	-	-	-

How to read it

Eli T. has done **10 of 21** scored sheets and got **52 of 63** items right with no prompt. **2** sheets were all right and **8** carry a note. Every number comes from the table.

What the table points to

The lowest sheets are Reading 2: Five Groups of Vertebrates (2 of 3) and Which Group Am I? (4 of 6). Those are where the next practice goes. The 11 sheets left blank are not tried yet, never wrong.

PREVIEW