

Creekside Animal Clues

Use body features and life cycles to sort animals into groups.

SC.3.L.15.1 "Classify animals into major groups (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, arthropods, vertebrates and invertebrates, those having live births and those which lay eggs) according to their physical characteristics and behaviors."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each animal name, circle words that tell about its body or young, and write 1 by animals that lay eggs and 2 by the animal with live births.

A Walk at Pine Creek

- ① At Pine Creek, Maya's class watches animals without touching them. A turtle has dry, scaly skin and a backbone. It is a reptile, so it is also a vertebrate. A robin has feathers, wings, and a backbone. It is a bird and a vertebrate. Both turtles and robins lay eggs, even though their body coverings are different.
- ② Near the water, a frog has smooth, moist skin. It begins life in water and later can live on land. A frog is an amphibian and a vertebrate. A trout has fins, scales, gills, and a backbone, making it a fish and a vertebrate. Frogs and trout lay eggs. Their eggs are not alike, but both animals begin as eggs.
- ③ Under a log, the class finds a pill bug with a hard outer covering and many legs. It has no backbone, so it is an invertebrate. A pill bug is an arthropod. Later, the class sees a rabbit with fur and a backbone. The rabbit is a mammal and a vertebrate. Rabbits have live births. Animal groups can be sorted by clues such as a backbone, body covering, legs, fins, and how young begin life.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 A robin belongs to which two animal groups?

2 What two groups does the frog belong to?

3 Why is the pill bug an invertebrate? Name its other group.

4 Which animal has live births? Name two animals in the passage that lay eggs.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose two animals not named in the passage. For each animal, write body clues, classify it into two groups, and tell whether it has live births or lays eggs.

ANIMAL	BODY CLUES	TWO GROUPS	HOW YOUNG BEGIN

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each animal name, circle words that tell about its body or young, and write 1 by animals that lay eggs and 2 by the animal with live births. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	A robin belongs to which two animal groups?	A robin is a bird and a vertebrate.
2	What two groups does the frog belong to?	A frog is an amphibian and a vertebrate.
3	Why is the pill bug an invertebrate? Name its other group.	It is an invertebrate because it has no backbone. Its other group is arthropod.
4	Which animal has live births? Name two animals in the passage that lay eggs.	The rabbit has live births. Any two: turtle, robin, frog, trout.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

ANIMAL	BODY CLUES	TWO GROUPS	HOW YOUNG BEGIN
dog	fur and a backbone	mammal, vertebrate	live births
butterfly	six legs and no backbone	arthropod, invertebrate	lays eggs

Accept accurate animal classifications supported by listed body clues. For the final column, accept either live births or lays eggs when correct for the chosen animal.