Garden Animal Groups

Use animal groups to sort creatures by backbone.

L.2.1.1 "Compare and sort groups of animals with backbones (vertebrates) from groups of animals without backbones (invertebrates)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each animal name that belongs with vertebrates. Circle each animal name that belongs with invertebrates.

Who Shares the Garden?

1. A backbone is a row of bones along an animal's back. Animals with backbones are called vertebrates. Animals without backbones are called invertebrates. All birds and mammals have backbones. Insects do not have backbones.

2. In a busy garden, a robin, a bird, hops near the birdbath. A rabbit, a mammal, nibbles grass. A moth, an insect, rests on a leaf. These animals live close together, but they do not all belong in the same group.

3. Near the path, a ladybug, an insect, crawls on a stem. A chipmunk, a mammal, darts into a bush. A sparrow, a bird, pecks at seeds. They share this small garden, but they do not all belong to the same animal group.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Sort the robin and the moth. Which is a vertebrate, and which is an invertebrate? Why?

2. Sort the chipmunk and the ladybug. Which has a backbone, and which does not? How do you know?

3. Do the rabbit and the sparrow belong in the same backbone group? Explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one bird or mammal and one insect that are not named in the passage. Name each animal, sort it as a vertebrate or an invertebrate, and tell why.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Animal Groups

GRADE 2 · L.2.1.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each animal name that belongs with vertebrates. Circle each animal name that belongs with invertebrates. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Sort the robin and the moth. Which is a vertebrate, and which is an invertebrate? Why?	**The robin is a vertebrate because it is a bird. The moth is an invertebrate because it is an insect.**
2	Sort the chipmunk and the ladybug. Which has a backbone, and which does not? How do you know?	**The chipmunk has a backbone because it is a mammal. The ladybug does not because it is an insect.**
3	Do the rabbit and the sparrow belong in the same backbone group? Explain.	**Yes. The rabbit is a mammal and the sparrow is a bird, so both are vertebrates.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A cat is a mammal and a vertebrate because mammals have backbones. An ant is an insect and an invertebrate because insects do not have backbones.

Accept any correctly identified bird or mammal as a vertebrate and any correctly identified insect as an invertebrate. The two animals in Your Turn must not be named in the passage.