Pond Body Clues

Classify vertebrates using their physical traits.

L.2.1.2 "Classify vertebrates (mammals, fish, birds, amphibians, and reptiles) based on their physical characteristics."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one body clue for each of the five named pond animals. Write each animal's vertebrate group above its name.

Who Lives by the Pond?

1. Animals with backbones are called vertebrates. Mammals have hair or fur and feed milk to their babies. Birds have feathers and beaks. Fish have gills for breathing in water. Reptiles have dry, scaly skin. Amphibians have moist skin.

2. At the pond, a duck shakes water from its feathers. A trout swims below, taking in water through its gills. On a warm rock, a turtle rests. Its skin is dry and scaly. Look for the body clues that tell their groups.

3. Near the pond, a frog sits on a leaf. Its skin stays moist. A rabbit hops past with soft fur. All five animals have backbones, but their body parts give clues about their groups.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which group does the duck belong to? Which group does the trout belong to?

2. Which group does the turtle belong to? What body clue tells you?

3. Which group does the frog belong to? Which group does the rabbit belong to? Give a body clue for each.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Make up two pond animals from different vertebrate groups. Give each a name, its group, and one body clue that shows why it belongs there.

ANSWER KEY

Pond Body Clues

GRADE 2 · L.2.1.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one body clue for each of the five named pond animals. Write each animal's vertebrate group above its name. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which group does the duck belong to? Which group does the trout belong to?	**The duck is a bird. The trout is a fish.**
2	Which group does the turtle belong to? What body clue tells you?	**The turtle is a reptile. Its skin is dry and scaly.**
3	Which group does the frog belong to? Which group does the rabbit belong to? Give a body clue for each.	**The frog is an amphibian because it has moist skin. The rabbit is a mammal because it has fur.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Tavi has feathers, so Tavi is a bird. Lumo has dry, scaly skin, so Lumo is a reptile.

Accept two different vertebrate groups with matching physical clues. For the marking job, check that each of the five named animals has a body clue underlined and the correct group written above its name.