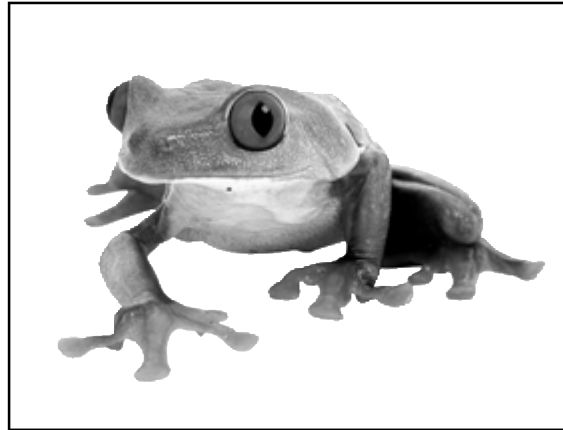


Some Facts about...



Amphibians

Amphibians are **cold-blooded vertebrates** that live **part of their lives in water and part on land**. Amphibians' **eggs** are laid in water and they are born there. They begin their lives with **gills and fins**.

As amphibians grow, they lose their **gills** and develop **lungs**. They also lose their fins and develop **legs and webbed feet**. Amphibians move to damp places on land. They must **always live near water** so that their **moist, smooth skin** does not dry out. Amphibians do not have scales.

Amphibians include **frogs, toads, salamanders, and caecilians**.

Some interesting facts about amphibians are:

Some Facts about...



Arthropods

Arthropods are the largest group of **invertebrates**. They have **jointed legs** and bodies that are divided into sections. Arthropods also have an **exoskeleton**, a hard skeleton outside their bodies. This exoskeleton protects the animal and keeps it from drying out. Arthropods have **nervous, circulatory, reproductive, and digestive** systems.

There are four main classes of arthropods:

- **Arachnids**, such as **spiders** and **mites**
- **Centipedes** and **Millipedes**
- **Crustaceans**, such as **lobster, shrimp, and crabs**
- **Insects**, such as **ants** and **butterflies**

Some interesting facts about arthropods are:

Animal Kingdom Poster Set

Some Facts about...



Birds

Birds are **warm-blooded vertebrates**. Birds have **feathers**, which they lose once a year in a process called **molting**. All birds have **wings**, although some birds, like the penguin and ostrich, cannot fly. Birds have **thin, hollow bones**, which make their bodies very light. They also have a respiratory system that is adapted to help them breathe at high elevations.

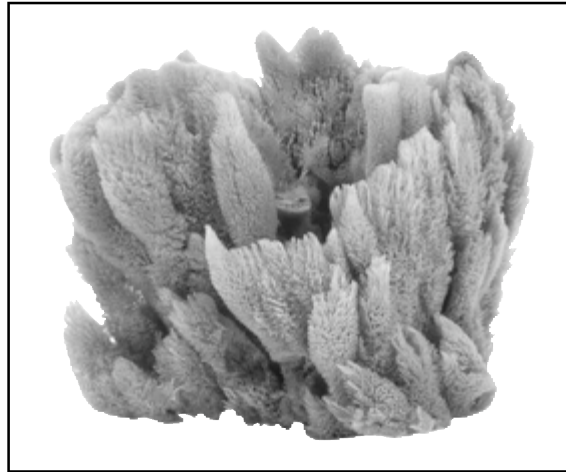
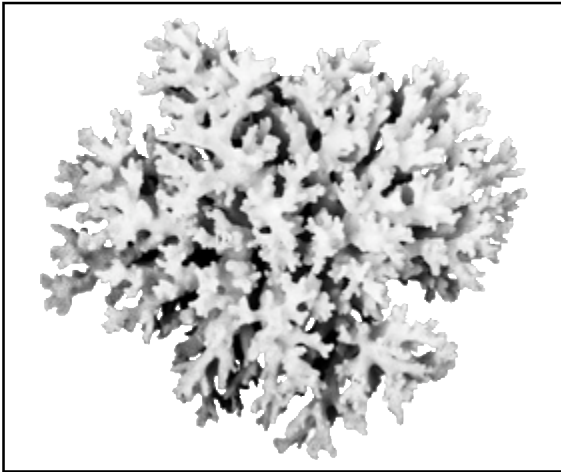
Birds have **beaks** and feet that are designed for specific purposes, such as eating seeds, catching fish, or preying on other animals.

The four main groups of birds are:

- **Perching birds**, such as **sparrows**
- **Water birds**, such as **ducks**
- **Birds of prey**, such as **hawks**
- **Flightless birds**, such as **ostriches**

Some interesting facts about birds are:

Some Facts about...



Coelenterates

Coelenterates are invertebrates with **stinging cells** on their **tentacles**. They use these stinging cells for protection and to capture prey. Some coelenterates, such as **coral** and **sea anemones**, stay in one place for most of their lives. They often live with their tentacles and mouth facing up, waiting for food to float by them. Other coelenterates, like the **jellyfish**, drift along in the water with their tentacles and mouth facing down, searching for food.

Coelenterates are made of **two layers of tissue that surround a jellylike middle**. They have no brain, but they do have a **system of nerves**. Their mouth leads to their stomach area, where food is digested. Coelenterates pass their waste out through their mouth.

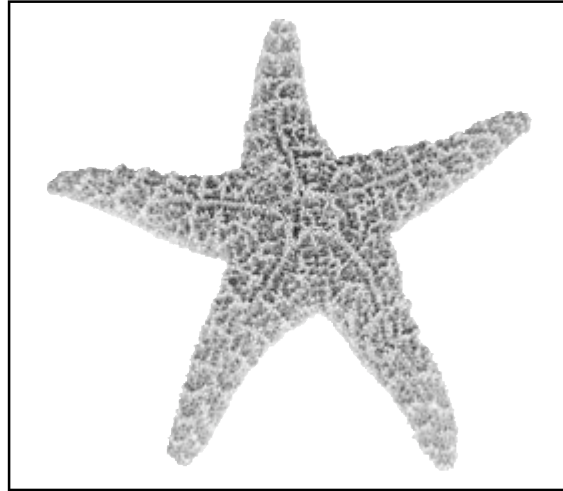
Some interesting facts about coelenterates are:

Sponges

Sponges are the simplest **invertebrates**. They have a **hollow, sac-like body** with an opening at the top. **Flagella**, located on **collar cells**, help water and food particles to enter the sponges through **pores**. Sponges have no tissue, brain, circulatory, or nervous systems. Young sponges move through the water to find a place to settle, while adult sponges generally stay in one place.

Some interesting facts about sponges are:

Some Facts about...



Echinoderms

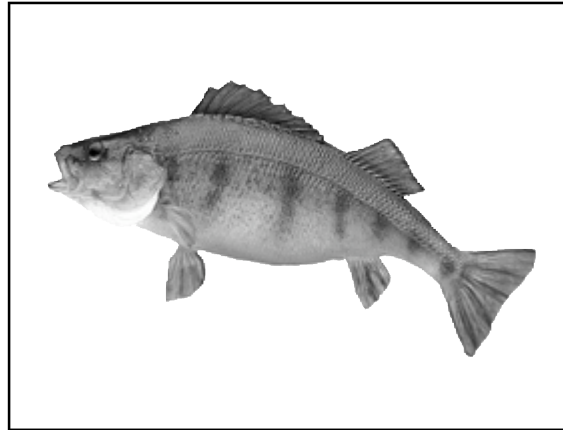
Echinoderms are **spiny-skinned invertebrates**. The spines on their endoskeletons help to protect them from predators. Echinoderms' bodies are divided into **five equal segments**, each containing a duplicate set of organs, and five or more arms. On each arm are **tube feet** with suction pads at their tips. They use these tube feet to move as well as to catch prey. They have no heart, brain, or eyes.

Echinoderms can **regenerate**, or regrow, missing body parts, such as arms or spines. In some species of starfish, a whole new animal can grow from just one arm.

Some examples of echinoderms are **sea stars**, **sea urchins**, and **sand dollars**.

Some interesting facts about echinoderms are:

Some Facts about...



Fish

Fish are **cold-blooded vertebrates** that live in freshwater or saltwater. Fish breathe through **gills**, allowing them to take in oxygen from the water and release carbon dioxide. **Fins** help fish to steer through the water. Some fish eat plants, while others eat other fish.

There are three types of fish:

- **Jawless fish**, such as **lampreys**, are soft and slimy.
- **Cartilaginous fish**, such as **rays** and **sharks**, have skeletons made of cartilage.
- **Bony fish**, which include about 95% of all fish, have skeletons made of bone. They have a **swim bladder** (a gas-filled sac) that helps them to stay afloat even when they're not swimming.

Some interesting facts about fish are:

Some Facts about...



Mammals

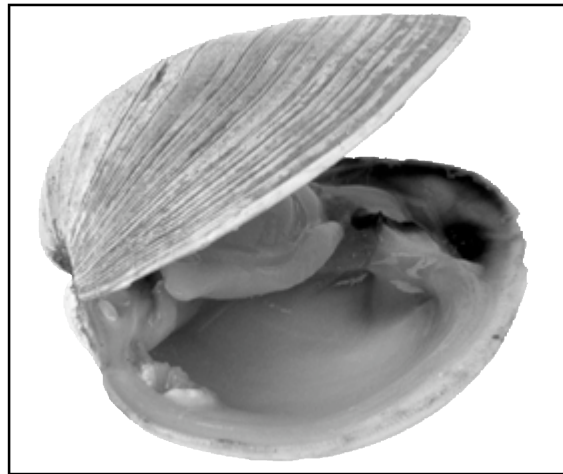
Mammals are **warm-blooded vertebrates** whose females feed milk to their young. Most mammals have **body hair or fur**. Most walk on four **legs**, although aquatic mammals have flippers instead of legs. Almost all mammals are **born live in a well-developed stage**, not hatched in eggs.

There are three types of mammals:

- **Mammals that have offspring develop inside the female's body**, such as **dogs, whales, bats, humans, and most other mammals**
- **Mammals that have pouches**, such as **koalas and kangaroos**
- **Mammals that lay eggs**, such as **platypuses and spiny anteaters**

Some facts about mammals are:

Some Facts about...



Mollusks

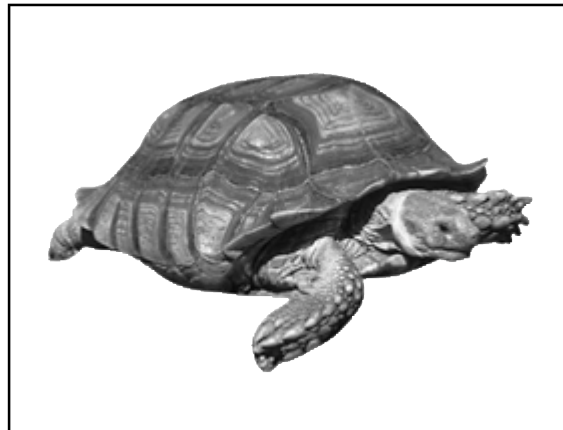
Mollusks are **invertebrates** that have **soft bodies**, which are divided into three parts: a **head**, a **foot**, and a **body that contains the organs**. Mollusks also have a **mantle**, which is a thin membrane that creates a protecting shell for most mollusks. Most mollusks live in water, although some live on land.

Three of the classes of mollusks are:

- **Gastropoda**, which include **snails** and **limpets**. Each usually have one shell, and are called **univalve**.
- **Bivalvia**, which include **clams**, **scallops**, and **oysters**. Each have two shells, and are called **bivalve**.
- **Cephalopoda**, which include **octopuses** and **squid**. They do not have an outer shell for protection. When in danger, these mollusks can squirt ink to cloud the water and confuse their enemies.

Some interesting facts about mollusks are:

Some Facts about...



Reptiles

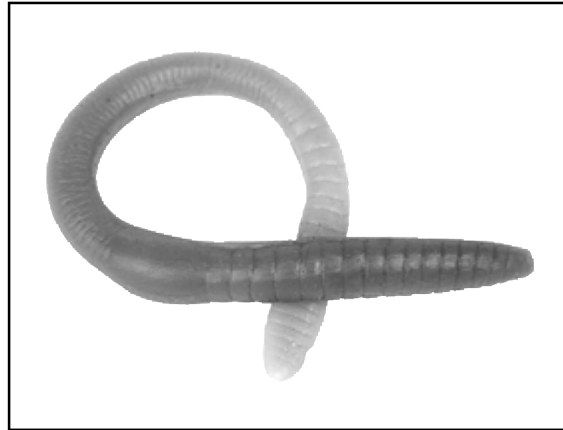
Reptiles are **cold-blooded vertebrates** that have **dry, scaly skin** and **live on land**. Their **eggs** are tougher than amphibians' eggs because of their hard shell. Reptiles have **lungs**. Some can also breathe through membranes in their mouth. Many reptiles can catch and eat prey that is much larger than the reptile itself.

There are four orders of reptiles:

- **Lizards and snakes**, which outnumber the other groups
- **Alligators and crocodiles**, which may be the closest living relatives to dinosaurs
- **Turtles**, which have toothless jaws and a hard shell
- **Tuataras**, which are large spiny reptiles that live on islands near New Zealand

Some interesting facts about reptiles are:

Some Facts about...



Worms

Worms are **cold-blooded invertebrates**. They have long, narrow bodies with **tissue, organs, and organ systems**. Worms do not have legs. There are many types of worms with very different characteristics.

The three most common types are:

- **Flatworms**, which are the simplest of all worms, and have soft, flat bodies. Most flatworms, such as **tapeworms**, are parasites, while some are scavengers, like **planaria**.
- **Roundworms**, which are slender, cylindrical worms with pointed ends. Many roundworms, such as **hookworms**, are parasites. Others are carnivores or herbivores.
- **Segmented Worms**, whose bodies are divided into sections, or segments. The most complex of all worms, they have a circulatory system with ten hearts. **Earthworms** are segmented worms.

Some interesting facts about worms are:
