

Vocabulary

Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.

amphibians cold-blooded vertebrates that spend part of their lives in water

annelids segmented worms

arthropods animals with jointed legs and hard exoskeletons

birds warm-blooded vertebrates with feathers

chordates animals with a nerve cord, gill slits, and notochord (rod that supports their body)

Cnidaria (NI-da-ri-a) phylum of animals with stinging cells

crustaceans group of marine arthropods with segmented bodies, paired limbs, and antennae

echinoderms animals with spiny skin and tube feet
(eh-KY-noh-derms)

endoskeleton internal support structure or skeleton

exoskeleton external support structure or skeleton

fish cold-blooded aquatic vertebrates with scales and gills

gills respiratory organ of some marine, freshwater, and land animals

Vocabulary

hydrostatic skeleton a body cavity filled with water that is surrounded by muscles

invertebrates animals without backbones

mammals vertebrates that are warm blooded, have hair, provide milk for young, have lungs and breathe air

mollusks invertebrates with soft bodies and a muscular foot

phylum a major group of organisms (phyla, *plural*)

Porifera (PO-rif-er-a) phylum of sponges; simple animals with pores; means “pore bearing”

reptiles cold-blooded vertebrates that live on land and have dry, scaly skin

vertebrates group of chordates that have backbones

zoologist scientist who studies animals