

# Vertebrates Answers

## Bulls Eye One

All vertebrates have an internal skeleton. Vertebrates include mammals, reptiles, and birds. Bats are considered mammals because they have hair, although they fly like birds. While some aquatic animals are vertebrates, others are invertebrates. Fish and amphibians are labeled as vertebrates, because they have internal skeletons. Fish have fins and gills. Reptiles, such as iguanas, snakes, crocodiles, and turtles, have scales. Owls are nocturnal, which means that they sleep at night. They are also carnivorous, meaning that they eat meat. Skeletons give us support and protection, but not intelligence.

## Bulls Eye Two

An example of the prey of a gecko is the cricket. An example of the prey of a sea lion is a squid. Monotremes, such as the duck-billed platypus, are primitive animals. The anatomy of mammals includes three middle ear bones. The anatomy of reptiles includes scales. The sloth, a native of South America, is a member of the chordate phylum. Humans are part of the primate order. Biologists may study the bodies of animals. Orangutans have opposable thumbs. Orangutans are arboreal, meaning that they live in trees. Camels, also known as dromedaries, can open and close their nostrils. Adaptive behaviors increase an organism's chances of survival.

## Habitats Bulls Eye

Every organism belongs to an ecosystem. Every organism lives in a habitat. Tropical forests contain great life diversity, and are often near the Earth's equator. The climate in a desert is dry. The climate in a polar region is cold year round. Fungi and bacteria are decomposers, which means that they break down dead organic material. People are examples of food consumers when we eat fruit, while we are examples of carnivores (and usually consumers) when eating pork chops. Sun rays are the food chain's primary source of energy. Plants are the lowest organisms on a food chain. Pollutants are chemicals that are harmful to organisms, while nutrients are chemicals that are necessary for organisms to live. An example of migration is when a community of birds fly to different parts of the world at regular intervals.

## Vertebrates Sentence Drop One

Living organisms often have varied characteristics. They can be slow moving, nocturnal mammals, such as a sloth. Others, such as the cheetah, are fast, carnivorous predators. Some animals employ self defense mechanisms, such as the use of venom. Although penguins and ostriches are birds, they can not fly. Amphibians, such as frogs, are cold blooded vertebrates with gills and lungs. Mammals, such as giraffes, are warm blooded. Whales and geese are two examples of animals that migrate long distances every year. Hibernation occurs when animals sleep for long periods of time to restore energy and conserve food. The habitats in which animals live are also often varied, typically to suit the characteristics of various organisms.

## Vertebrates Sentence Drop Two

Cougars stalk and ambush their prey. Chipmunks dig burrows with extensive chambers. Poaching endangers both types of elephants. Animals in captivity are not free. An omnivore will eat almost

anything. Skunks use an unusual defense mechanism. Female mammals that wean their young gradually reduce feeding. Orcas live in pods and use blowholes for respiration. Maturation and sometimes metamorphosis are part of life cycles. Many of the bones in a bird are hollow. Goldfish are considered hardy because they adapt to change. Dogs have keen senses of smell and acute hearing.

## Habitats Sentence Drop

Deserts receive very little rain. Life is abundant in forests. Earth's biosphere supports Earth's life. Animals adapt to different climates. The equator is usually warm. Soil is a popular habitat. Much of Russia and Canada is Taiga. Prairies and savannas are types of grasslands. Mountains can come in chains and ranges. Terrestrial is another word used for land. Many animals have adapted to city life. I wonder where temperate forests are located.

## Vertebrates Sentence Maze

Many reptiles use camouflage to hide from predators. That bird's beak is the same color as its feathers. Reptiles have scales. Many birds build nests. My tame pet pig, Sally, is a domestic animal. Some mammals have tusks, antlers, and horns. The Giant panda is an endangered species. The desert is the rattlesnake's habitat. Many vertebrates have tails.

## Vertebrates Sentence Maze Two

Vertebrates have not lived on Earth as long as invertebrates have. Modern fish have evolved from jawless fish. Instead of hair and scales, birds have feathers with shafts, barbs, and quills. There are over 350 sharks, for example, nurse sharks and tiger sharks. Placentals, like the whale and the human, develop in the mother's uterus before birth. The bodies of vertebrates are bilaterally symmetrical. Groundhogs are solitary rodents that hibernate. Some mammals have manes. Examples of marsupials are kangaroos and opossums.

## Vertebrates Sentence Search One

Warm blooded animals can live anywhere. Cold blooded animals need warm environments. Birds feed worms to chicks. Mammals feed milk to their young. Sharks' skeletons are made out of rubbery cartilage. Primates and marsupials are mammals. Chimpanzees are primates. Rodents are mammals. Kangaroos are marsupials; animals with pouches.

## Vertebrates Sentence Search Two

Endothermic is a synonym for warm-blooded. Arctic vertebrates use thick fur for insulation. The time between conception and birth is the gestation period. Scientists often group animals using a taxonomy. Rodents need to constantly gnaw because their incisors are constantly growing. Seals and walruses have blubber. Reptiles slough their skin because it doesn't grow. Male bovids have horns. Birds use plumage for camouflage and mating. Scavengers clean up after carnivores.

## Habitats Sentence Search

Insects live in many habitats. A forest's canopy is above the forest floor. Swamps are warm and wet. Antarctic life has adapted to extreme cold. Endangered species are threatened. Many animals migrate to avoid cold weather. Don't break the food chain. Birds aren't the only animals with nests.