



CHARACTERISTICS OF VERTEBRATE GROUPS

Cut out each set of cards and use these to learn different facts about each group.




Fish have gills so they can breathe under water.	Fish live in water. They cannot survive on land.
Fish are covered in wet scales.	Fish lay eggs in water.
Fish have fins and a tail for swimming. They do not have legs.	Fish are 'cold-blooded' which means they are the same temperature as their surroundings.




Young amphibians look different from their parents. They can only live in water. The adults can live on land.	Young amphibians usually have gills so that they can breathe under water. Adults usually have lungs.
Amphibians have skin with no hair, feathers or scales. It must be kept moist.	Amphibians lay eggs in water.
Most amphibians have 4 legs but they do not have claws. Some have tails.	Amphibians are 'cold-blooded' which means they are the same temperature as their surroundings.

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Young reptiles look like small adults.	Reptiles have lungs and cannot breathe under water.
Reptiles have dry scaly skin.	Reptile eggs have leathery shells and so they can be laid on land.
Reptiles which have legs also have claws on their toes.	Reptiles are 'cold-blooded' which means they are the same temperature as their surroundings.



Birds have two legs and two wings. Most birds can fly.	Some birds can swim but they have lungs so cannot breathe under water.
Birds have feathers and beaks.	Birds lay eggs which have hard shells.
Most birds have very light, hollow bones to help them to fly.	Birds are 'warm-blooded' which means they can stay at the same temperature even when they are in cold place.

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<p>Mammals, even those which live in water, have lungs not gills so they need to come to the surface to breathe.</p>	<p>Mammals have different types of teeth so they do not need to swallow their food whole.</p>
<p>Mammals have hair or fur.</p>	<p>Almost all mammals give birth to live young.</p>
<p>Mammals produce milk to feed their young.</p>	<p>Mammals are 'warm-blooded' which means they can stay at the same temperature even when they are in cold place.</p>