

LIVING THINGS

TOPIC: CLASSIFICATION OF ANIMALS

LESSON: 1

CLASSIFICATION OF VERTEBRATES.

Classification of living things (basic characteristics)

- ❖ Classification means grouping of organisms according to their characteristics.
- ❖ **Basic characteristics of living things are:**
 1. They reproduce.
 2. They respond to stimuli
 3. They respire
 4. They feed
 5. They grow
 6. They excrete

Groups of animals

- ❖ Animals in the environment are grouped into **vertebrates** and **invertebrates**.
- ❖ Vertebrates are animals with a back bone/vertebral column/spine.

Characteristics of vertebrates.

1. Vertebrates have a back bone/spine/vertebral column
2. Vertebrates have endo skeleton.
3. They have a water proof skin.

Classification of vertebrates./Classes of vertebrates

Vertebrates are classified or grouped into two groups/classes namely;

1. Warm blooded vertebrates
 - Birds
 - Mammals
2. Cold blooded vertebrates
 - Reptiles
 - Fish
 - Amphibians

❖ **Warm blooded animals**

Are vertebrates whose body temperature is constant

Groups of warm blooded vertebrates

Birds and mammals

❖ **Cold blooded animals**

- ❖ are vertebrates whose body temperature is not constant

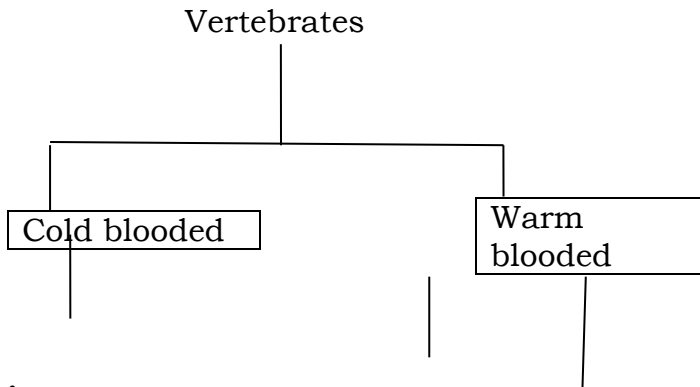
Groups of cold blooded vertebrates

- ✓ reptiles
- ✓ amphibians
- ✓ fish

Examples of cold blooded vertebrates

Lizards, snakes, crocodiles, frogs, toads and fish

Classification table of vertebrates



Activity

1. List any two characteristics of living things

i) _____

ii) _____

2. In one sentence explain the term vertebrates.

3. Identify any one characteristic common to all vertebrates.

4. Write one sentence to explain the following terms

a) Warm blooded animals

b) Cold blooded animals

5. Give two groups of cold blooded vertebrates.

i) _____

ii) _____

6. In one sentence give a reason why animals move.

7. identify one group of warm blooded vertebrates

8. identify any one factor considered when classifying animals
