Name: Date: Score: / 8

Backbone or Not: Learn and Practice

Vertebrates and invertebrates

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

💡 Vertebrates and Invertebrates

- A vertebrate is an animal with a backbone.
- An invertebrate is an animal without a backbone.
- Most kinds of animals on Earth are invertebrates, like insects, worms and spiders.
- dog has a backbone: vertebrate; worm has none: invertebrate

1 🕷️ A spider has no backbone. What is it?

A. An amphibian B. An invertebrate

C. A mammal D. A vertebrate

2 Which group is made up only of invertebrates?

A. Snake, spider, cow, bee

B. Cat, crab, frog, worm C. Fish, ant, bird, snail

D. Ant, crab, snail, worm

3 🪱 Which animal is an invertebrate?

A. Salmon B. Earthworm C. Dog D. Eagle

4 In vertebrates, which body part protects the spinal cord?

A. The skin only B. The backbone

C. The stomach D. The teeth

5 An animal with a backbone is called a...

A. Plant B. Fungus C. Vertebrate

D. Invertebrate

6 🐜 Insects have a hard outer covering instead of bones inside. What is it called?

A. A turtle shell B. An exoskeleton C. A fur coat

D. A backbone

7 🐴 Which animal is a vertebrate?

A. Horse B. Spider C. Snail D. Jellyfish

8 Do people have a backbone?

A. Only adults do B. Yes, people are vertebrates

C. No, we are invertebrates D. Only in winter

✏️ Explain it! Write two facts you learned about backbone or not.

ANSWER KEY

Backbone or Not: Learn and Practice (answers)

Vertebrates and invertebrates

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

1 🕷️ A spider has no backbone. What is it?

A. An amphibian **B. An invertebrate**

C. A mammal D. A vertebrate

No backbone means invertebrate. Spiders have a hard outer covering instead.

2 Which group is made up only of invertebrates?

A. Snake, spider, cow, bee

B. Cat, crab, frog, worm C. Fish, ant, bird, snail

D. Ant, crab, snail, worm

Ants, crabs, snails and worms have no backbones. The other groups mix in some vertebrates.

3 🪱 Which animal is an invertebrate?

A. Salmon **B. Earthworm** C. Dog D. Eagle

An earthworm has no backbone at all, so it is an invertebrate.

4 In vertebrates, which body part protects the spinal cord?

A. The skin only **B. The backbone**

C. The stomach D. The teeth

The spinal cord carries messages to and from the brain, and the backbone keeps it safe.

5 An animal with a backbone is called a...

A. Plant B. Fungus **C. Vertebrate**

D. Invertebrate

Vertebrates have a backbone. You are a vertebrate too!

6 🐜 Insects have a hard outer covering instead of bones inside. What is it called?

A. A turtle shell **B. An exoskeleton**

C. A fur coat D. A backbone

Exo means outside. An exoskeleton is a skeleton on the outside of the body.

7 🐴 Which animal is a vertebrate?

A. Horse B. Spider C. Snail D. Jellyfish

A horse has a backbone, so it is a vertebrate. The others have none.

8 Do people have a backbone?

A. Only adults do **B. Yes, people are vertebrates**

C. No, we are invertebrates D. Only in winter

Your spine runs down the middle of your back. It makes you a vertebrate.