

Classifying Living Things — Cheat Sheet

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CLASSIFYING LIVING THINGS

1. First split: backbone (vertebrate) or not (invertebrate).
2. Five vertebrate groups: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals.
3. Insects = 6 legs; spiders = 8 legs (not insects).
4. Classification keys ask yes/no questions to reach a group.

Example: whale → lungs + milk → mammal (not fish).