

Animal Phyla

Directions: You are to work in think-pair-share teams. Each member is to use the information below to complete the chart of the animal phyla. Each team will complete 4 of the phyla. Team members will change groups and teach the other members about their 4 phyla. At the end of this exercise your chart should be completed if each member does his or her part. This activity will be followed by a brief quiz that you will use your chart to complete.

1. Porifera - the sponges are marine, pore-bearing animals that have water pass through their pores to obtain the necessary nutrients.
2. Coelentrata - the jellyfish, sea anemones, and coral are typical examples of this phylum. They have a cup-like, one opening digestive system and their body structure consists of two layers of cells.
3. Platyhelminthes - the tapeworm is a typical flatworm with bilateral symmetry in which their body parts can be divided into to equal parts. They have three layers of cells with tissues that form distinct layers.
4. Annelida - these segmented, roundworms burrow holes in the ground as in the case of the common earthworm. They also have bilateral symmetry, 3 layers of tissue, and a one way digestive system with a mouth and an anus. Their moist skin serves as a respiratory surface for the exchange of gasses.

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1. Mollusca - these are the soft-bodied clams, oysters, snails, octopuses that use their shells for protection. These shells are not skeletons. They are 3 layers and unsegmented.
2. Arthropoda - the insects, spiders, crabs, centipedes, and millipedes have a common exoskeleton or outside skeleton composed of chitin, a complex carbohydrate molecule. In addition these organisms have jointed appendages that allow for bending and jumping.
3. Echinodermata - these are the spiny-skinned animals that have spines covering their skins. The starfish has radial symmetry in that its body parts are arranged in a circular pattern and the spokes in a bicycle wheel. The 5 arms radiate out to form a central disk.
4. Chordata - most chordates are vertebrates and they have a notochord or stiffened supporting rod in the dorsal (top) part of the body. In adults this is replaced by a backbone. Some chordates are cold-blooded (fish) or warm-blooded (man, apes, etc.)