Listen

IDENTIFYING VERTEBRATES

NAME:

DATE:

A house cat is obviously a cat. But how would you classify the animal below? It's a South American mammal called a *coatimundi*. It is classified in the same family as raccoons.

Use the information on pages 205–12 of your textbook to identify the groups of vertebrates described below.

1. vertebrates that have feathers and lack teeth

2. vertebrates that have fur or hair

3. smooth-skinned vertebrates that typically live in water when young but can live on land as adults

4. vertebrates that have scales and lungs

5. vertebrates that have gills and bony skeletons and are usually covered by scales

6. ectothermic aquatic vertebrates that have gills and fins

7. aquatic vertebrates that have gills but lack scales and paired fins

8. aquatic vertebrates that have jaws, scales, and endoskeletons made of cartilage

9. animals that live in water as young and on land as tailless adults

10. tailed vertebrates that have moist, scaleless skin

11. scaly ectothermic vertebrates that molt their skin

12. vertebrates that have scutes and teeth

13. vertebrates that have two hard, bony shells

14. endothermic vertebrates that are connected to their developing young by umbilical cords

15. furred vertebrates that lay eggs

16. endothermic vertebrates that have pouches

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

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You can probably tell that the animal below is a spider. Your recognition of that fact was an act of classification. You used characteristics like the animal's size, shape, and jointed legs to place it into a group of organisms called *spiders*.

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This daring jumping spider captures its prey by hunting rather than by using a web like most spiders do. It poses no threat to humans; in fact, it is less than an inch long.

In the activity below, use the same process to identify the group being described in each question. Use the information on pages 200–204 of your textbook.

Write the common name for the group of animals described.

1. marine animals that have stinging cells to paralyze and capture prey

_____

2. animals that have soft bodies and are divided into repeating body segments

_____

3. animals that have spiny skins and live in the ocean

_____

4. animals that have an exoskeleton and jointed appendages

_____

5. animals that have soft and flattened bodies

_____

6. animals that have soft bodies and, frequently, shells

_____

7. animals that lack symmetry and cephalization

_____

8. animals that have complete guts but are otherwise very simple

_____

9. arthropods that have six legs and three body segments

_____

10. mollusks that have multiple tentacles

_____

11. arthropods that have eight or ten legs

_____

12. mollusks that have two-piece, hinged shells

_____

13. arthropods that have eight legs and two body segments

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS