

IDU: Vertebrate Vectors

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: Read the passage then answer the questions below. Use the passage to help you answer your questions.

Lesson 1

Vertebrates - Vectors

Animals with backbones are called **vertebrates**. A backbone is a row of bones in the back of an animal. Scientists classify animals with backbones into five ^{different} groups. These five groups are **mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish.**

Vectors that are vertebrates

Vectors are animals that spread or transmit germs and diseases. Some vertebrate vectors include rats, mice, and bats.

There are two types of rats – the **Roof rat** (black rat) and the **Norway rat** (brown rat). Wherever food and shelter are plentiful there, you will find the Norway rat.



Rats breed in garbage refuges, sewers, old warehouses, back alleys and other places where there is an abundance of food. The Norway rat lives in burrows underground and inside walls.

The roof rat climbs and can be found in upper levels of buildings. **Food contamination** occurs from urine and feces of rats. Rats carry a lot of diseases some include **bubonic plagues** and **salmonella**. To keep rats away, good sanitation is necessary; tightly closed garbage containers are essential.



Bats also carry disease. Bats spread the disease called **rabies**.

Vampire bats lap up the blood of cattle horses, livestock, and pigs. Both rats and bats are **mammals**.

1. **Two** types of rats are _____ and _____. (Select one answer.)(2pt)

A. male and female

B. Norway and Roof

C. blue and black

D. orange and green

2. What are **THREE** places where rats breed? (Select three answers.) (3pts)

A. garbages

B. bedrooms

C. sewers

D. old warehouses

3. How does food contamination happen? (1pt)

A. It happens from playing with animals.

B. It happens from eating healthy foods.

C. It happens from urine and feces of rats.

4. What is **ONE** disease that bats spread? (1pt)

A. rabies

B. salmonella

C. bubonic plagues

D. chicken pox

5. Name **TWO** diseases carried by rats. (1pt.)

6. According to the passage, rats breed in garbage refuges, sewers, old warehouses, back alleys and other places where there is an abundance of food. What are **TWO** things you would do to keep rats away? (1pt.)

7. Name the FIVE groups of vertebrates. (5 pts)
