DAILY Warm-Up 1

Name _____ Date _____

CLASSIFYING ANIMALS

Did you know that there are over 1,000,000 different species, or types, of animals? With so many species, scientists have to find a way to sort them into groups. Two of the main groups are vertebrates and invertebrates.

Vertebrates are animals that have a backbone. Humans are in this group. Also in this group are whales, monkeys, birds, and frogs. Just about any pet you have in your home is a vertebrate. Dogs, cats, goldfish, hamsters, and snakes are vertebrates.

Invertebrates have no backbone. Many of them live in the ocean. Clams, jellyfish, squids, and octopuses are invertebrates. Those that live on land are spiders, worms, and insects.

Scientists are finding new species of animals every day. Every one of them can be put into one of these two groups.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What are two ways, according to this passage, animals are classified or sorted?
   a. land and water animals
   b. mammals and jellyfish
   c. invertebrates and vertebrates
   d. color and shape

2. Based on the passage, which is the best definition of invertebrates?
   a. animals that have several backbones
   b. animals that have one backbone
   c. animals that have no backbones
   d. animals that prefer to swim in the ocean

3. Human beings are in the category of . . .
   a. invertebrates.
   b. vertebrates.
   c. neither of these.
   d. both of these.

4. Which of the animals below would fit into the category of invertebrates?
   a. giraffe
   b. bird
   c. squid
   d. pig

LIVEWORKSHEETS