

# 9 Vertebrates

In your textbook, read about fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals.

## FISHES

Complete the chart by checking the correct column(s) for each characteristic of fishes.

Adaptation	Jawless	Cartilaginous	Bony
1. Jaws			
2. Gills			
3. Lateral line system			
4. Paired fins			
5. Skeleton made of cartilage			
6. Swim bladder			

## AMPHIBIANS

Complete the following sentences.

7. Amphibians are \_\_\_\_\_, which means that their body temperature depends upon the temperature of their surroundings. These vertebrates also carry out gas exchange through their \_\_\_\_\_. Amphibians live on \_\_\_\_\_ but reproduce in \_\_\_\_\_. Almost all amphibians go through \_\_\_\_\_, a radical change between the form of the young and the form of the adult.

## REPTILES

Complete the table by describing the advantages that reptiles have because of certain adaptations. List one advantage for each adaptation.

Adaptation	Advantage
8. Scaly skin	
9. Amniotic egg	

**BIRDS**

Flight affects almost every system in birds. Explain the flight adaptations in each system listed here.

System	Adaptation
10. Bones	
11. Respiration	
12. Body covering	
13. Legs	
14. Wings	

**MAMMALS**

Various adaptations of mammals serve certain functions. In the space provided, write the letter of the adaptations that perform the function. Any letter may be used more than once.

Function	Adaptation
15. protection from low temperatures _____	a. hair
16. protection from high temperatures _____	b. sweat glands
17. feeding young _____	c. four-chambered heart
18. stabbing or holding food _____	d. diaphragm
19. grinding or chewing food _____	e. canine teeth
20. providing large amounts of oxygen _____	f. mammary glands
	g. small ears
	h. body fat
	i. molars and premolars
	j. hibernation
	k. estivation = dormant during the day