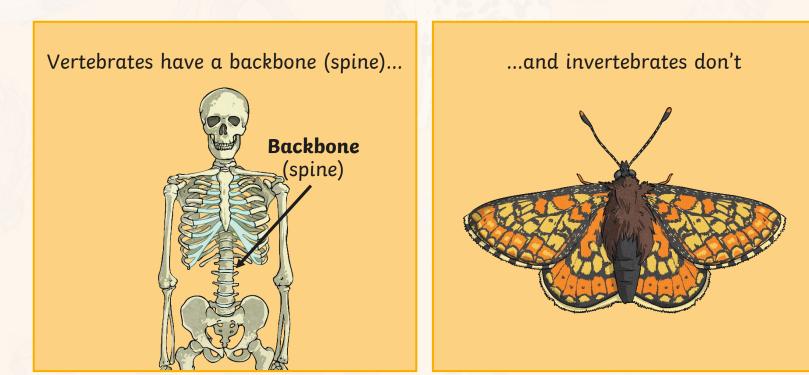


Vertebrates and Invertebrates

The difference between vertebrates and invertebrates is simple!



vertebrate

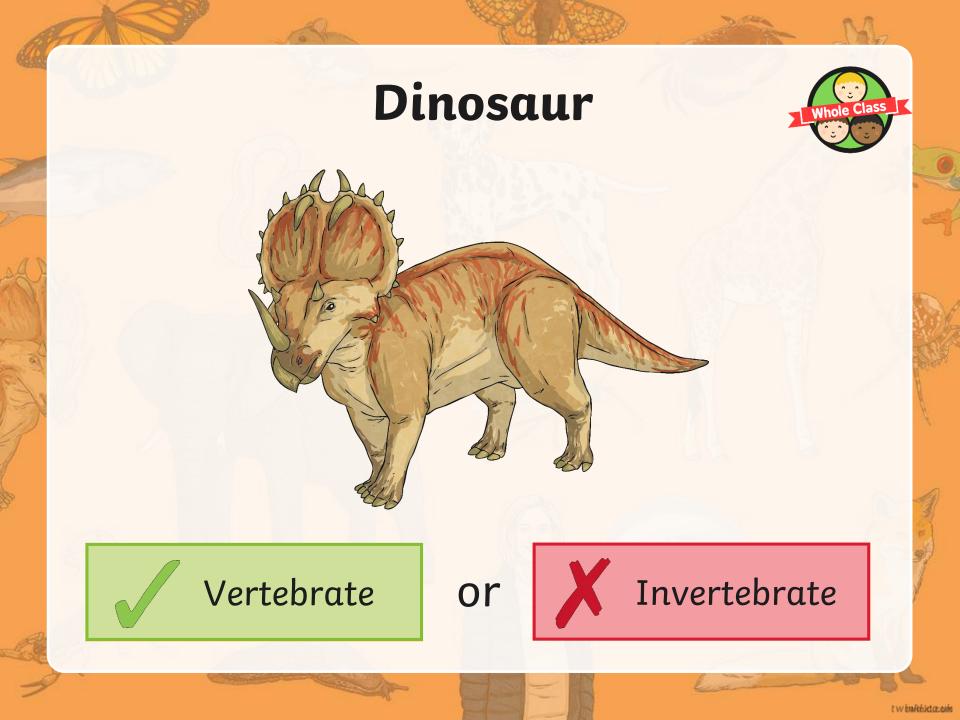
invertebrate

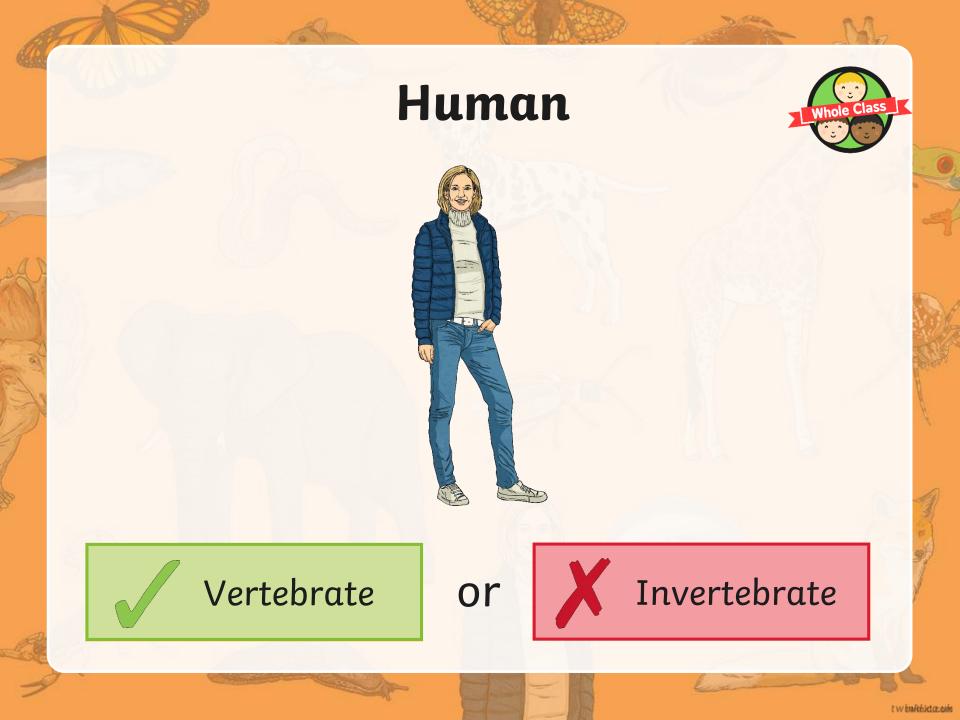
Now let's see if you can categorise animals as vertebrates or invertebrates.

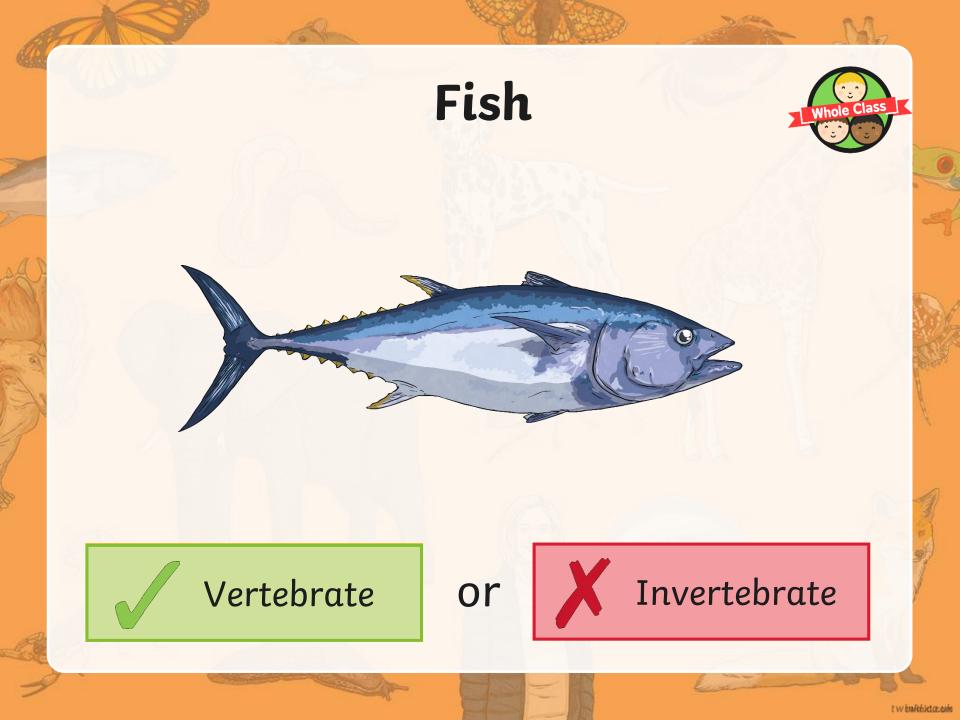
Vertebrate or Invertebrate Quiz!

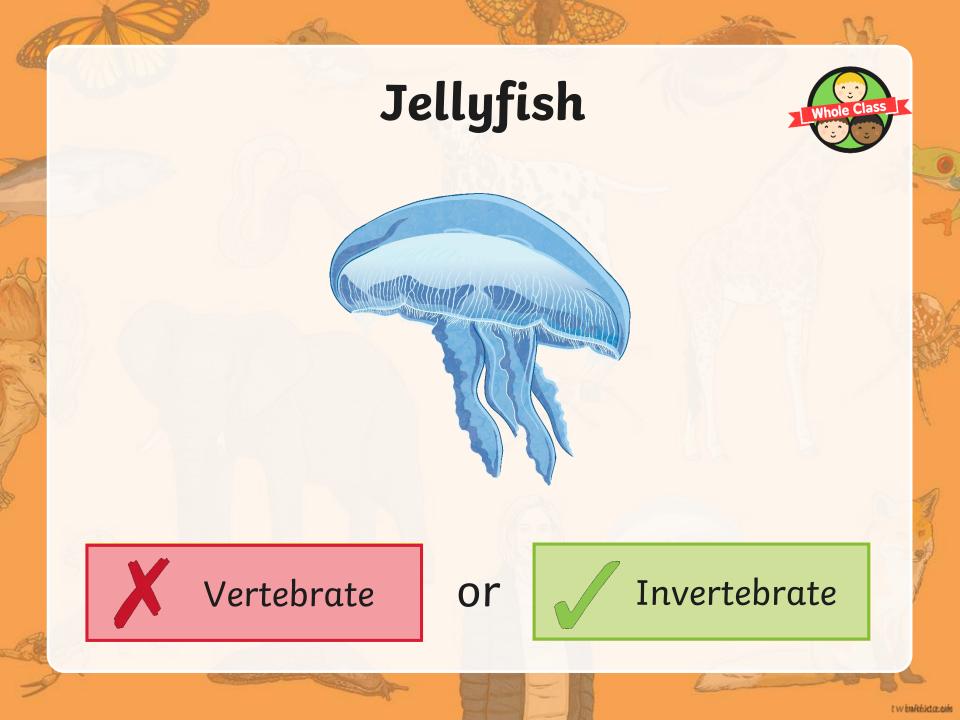


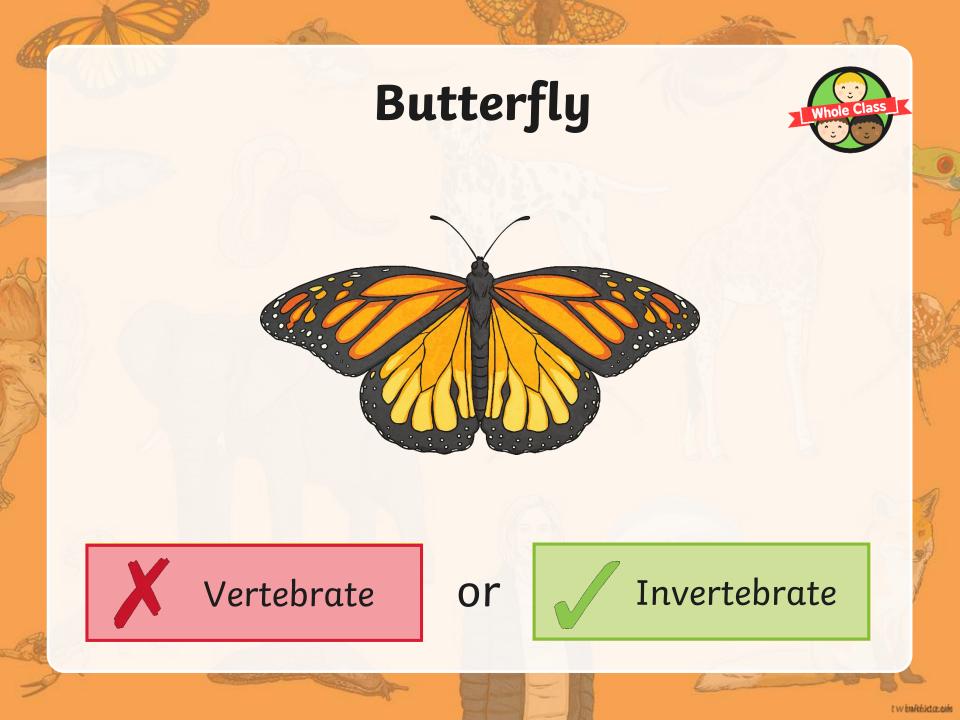












Types of Skeletons



A further classification of skeletons comes from if an animal has a skeleton and where it is.

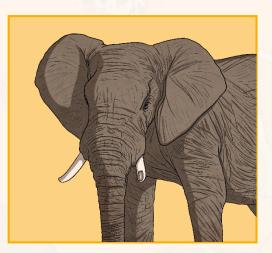
All vertebrates have an endoskeleton. However invertebrates can be divided again between those with an exoskeleton and those with a hydrostatic skeleton.



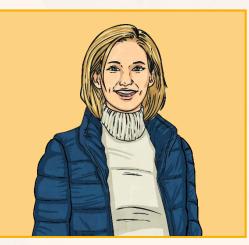
What do you think the words endoskeleton, exoskeleton and hydrostatic skeleton mean?

Endoskeletons

Animals with endoskeletons have skeletons on the inside of their bodies.



Endoskeletons are lighter than exoskeletons.

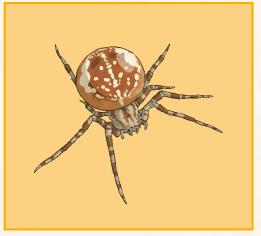


As the animal grows so does their skeleton.

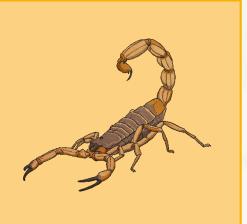


Exoskeletons

Animals with exoskeletons have their skeletons on the outside!



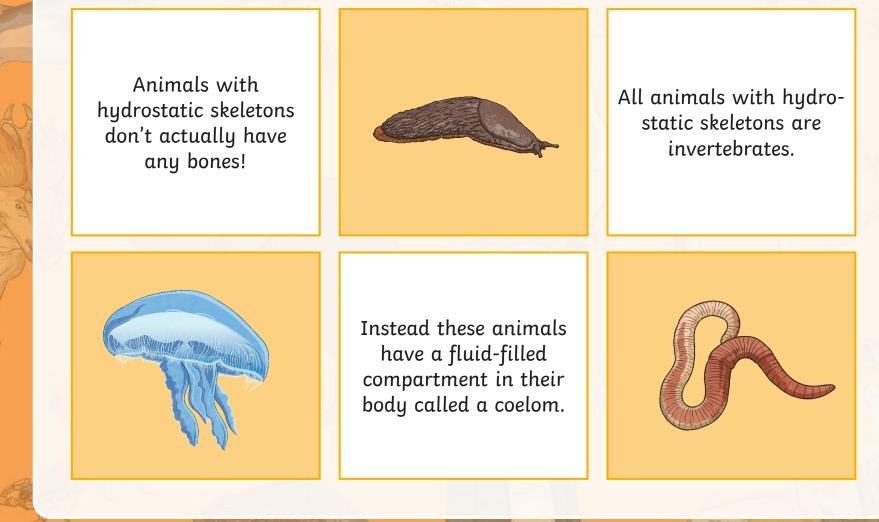
Watch the following clip to see how they shed their skeletons (clip the crab below).



Exoskeletons do not grow with the animal. Therefore the animal has to shed its skeleton and produce a new one!



Hydrostatic Skeletons



Skeleton Types



Can you think of an example of an animal with an exoskeleton, endoskeleton or hydrostatic skeleton?

Choose one of the sorting Skeleton Type sheets





Pros and Cons of Different Skeleton Types

Type of Skeleton	Pro	Con
Endoskeleton		
Exoskeleton		
Hydrostatic Skeleton		

Grows with the body More protection for the body

Does not grow with the body

Body is more flexible

Cannot lift objects Muscles are less flexible