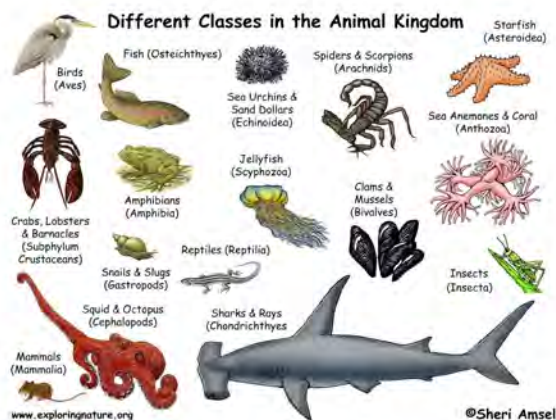


You will need:

- Any random items you can find laying around your home
- Space or containers to sort the items into

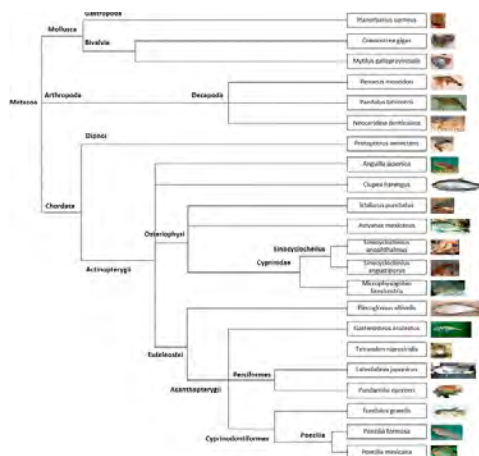


Introduction

Try your skills as a scientist and classify the things around your house. In science, classification of anything, especially animals, starts at the top with very broad or wide details. For this activity, start your classification as broad as you can, then narrow it down to the smallest detail.

Directions: (For this example, we will use color to start by, but you can start with anything—texture, size, shape, etc.)

1. Gather all the items in one location and begin sorting them by color.
2. This will be the initial classification - brown items, black items, pink items, etc.
3. Next take the items from one of these groups and sort them by shape. Do this for each group.
4. After the shape and color classifications have been done, maybe try to separate the items by function—kitchen items, bathroom items, etc.
5. Continue this process as far as you can and you will be following through the classification process like a real scientist.
6. Take it a step further and draw a chart to show how the items break out into their own unique “species.”
7. Try sorting them again using a different classification system or grab some new objects. How do your groups change?
8. Show us your classification skills on our Facebook page “Adventures in EdZooCation” or tag the North Carolina Zoo at #NCZOO or #NCZOOED.



Step 6