

Classification Activity

In this activity you will use Wikipedia to research the classification details of the animals shown on the cards below. It is possible to click on the links for each of the classification groups and find details of their common features. Every entry had an etymology of the name, which is interesting because it helps us to realize that these long scientific names actually have meaning, often descriptive and sometimes historical. You should make a list of these prefixes in the table on this page as you do your research.

To do:

Cut out, the twelve species cards and arrange them in groups according to the following plan:

1. Arrange the cards into phyla
2. Organize the Chordates into their Class.
3. Find any pairs who are both from the same order

Take a photo of your arrangement each time

Complete details of the binomial name and complete classification of your two favorite species:

Scientific classification of the _____	Scientific classification of the _____
Binomial name: _____	Binomial name: _____
Kingdom: Animalia	Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum:	Phylum:
Class:	Class:
Order:	Order:
Family:	Family:
Genus:	Genus:
Species:	Species:

Some notable biological prefixes in scientific names:

prefix	meaning	prefix	meaning

Giraffe

Image : US state department
on flickr.com



Family: Giraffidae

Genus: Giraffa

Species: camelopardalis

Human

Image : CC-BY Pedro Ribeiro
on flickr.com



Family: Hominidae

Genus: Homo

Species: sapiens

Indian cobra

Image : CC-BY from Yusuf
on flickr.com



Family: Elapidae

Genus: Naja

Species: naja

American robin

Image CC-BY from
sympetrum on flickr



Family: Turdidae

Genus: Turdus

Species: migratorius

European robin

Image CC-BY from Darren
Dobson on flickr



Family: Muscicapidae

Genus: Erithacus

Species: rubecula

Red eyed tree frog

Image CC-BY from Daniel
Andersson on flickr



Family: Hylidae

Genus: Agalychnis

Species: callidryas