

INVERTEBRATE PHYLA CLASSIFICATION GAME



Purpose of activity: To make review of classification fun.

NOTE: This game assumes some previous knowledge. In my own classes, I used this as a review game at the end of a unit on simple invertebrates. We played my game "Worm Zoo" (also a free download) and did drawings of planaria, slugs, hydra and snail. We also looked at some of these creatures under the microscope. I had used a large version of this chart in class, showing where each creature was located as we studied them. So by the time they got to this game they at least recognized many of the creatures on the cards.

Target audience: ages 10-16, but might be used with younger or older

Number of players: 2 to 6 per game board

Time needed: One round (using about 30 pictures) will take 20-25 minutes.

Materials needed: A copy of the lift-the-flap classification chart (read assembly notes below), a copy of each page of picture cards (printed onto card stock if possible), a die (number cube for each player, two identical tokens (pawns, coins, colored candy, whatever you have) for each player, pennies or small candies to keep score (or can just do a tally with pencil and paper), scissors, clear tape

How to assemble:

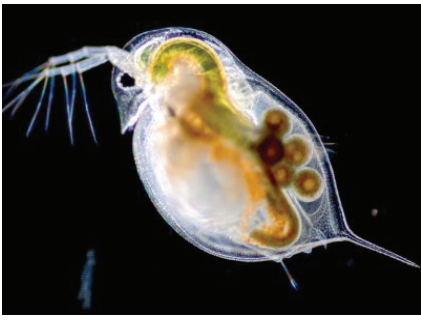
- 1) Print out the pictures and cut them apart. You can decide whether you want to leave the name labels on, or cut them off. (If you are trying to make the game more difficult, you can cut them off.) Use animals that your students are more familiar with.
- 2) You can use my method of assembly or make up your own. I taped four pieces of paper together to make a large rectangle. The flap chart fit very well in the center, leaving plenty of space around the edges for the small pictures.
- 3) I made a special flap chart (out of card stock) where instead of cutting the edges with an X-Acto knife, I cut the flap out separately and taped the top edge. I did this so that the flap would stay flat even after being lifted many times. With this method, the "hinge" is the piece of tape, not the actual paper. The tape is more flexible than the paper and will allow the flap to lie flat.
- 4) In my version, I wrote the name of the phylum on the backs of picture cards, just in case that animal isn't represented by a tiny drawing under the flap. The players were not allowed to lift the pictures and peek during game play, only if and when they needed to double check the answer. Then I taped the picture cards around the edges, making them hinged like the phylum flaps.
- 5) I made a START/FINISH square in one corner.

How to play:

NOTE: Before you start playing, you might want to give your students a minute or two to peek under all the flaps, to refresh their memory of what creatures are in each phylum.

- 1) Give each player a die (number cube). Also, each player needs two identical tokens of some kind. One token will stay on the picture track, and the other will be placed on top of a phylum flap to represent their guess.
- 2) Players place one of their tokens on START.
- 3) All players role their dice at the same time. Seems a little chaotic, but it will work in most cases. Some groups might need coaching ("Ready, set, roll!") while other groups might be autonomous and not need help.
- 4) After players have all landed on their creatures, they think about what phylum that creature might be in. They make a guess and indicate this by placing their other token on top of the flap
- 5) When all players have placed their guess tokens, then they are all allowed to lift that flap to see if they are correct.
- 6) If they are correct, they get a point. (Using pennies or small candies makes it easy to keep track of points.) If they are not correct, then they just gained valuable information about what is under that flap! This information will probably come in handy during a future turn.
- 7) Once all the players have gotten back to the START/FINISH, they add up their pennies to see who won. But as I always say to my students (with a wink), "Everyone who learned something is a winner just because they learned!" Yeah, teachers always have to say stuff like that. lol





Daphnia magna



Tree snail



leopard slug



green hydra



sea pen



sea anemone



land planarian



deep sea tube worms



parasitic horsehair worm



ribbon worms



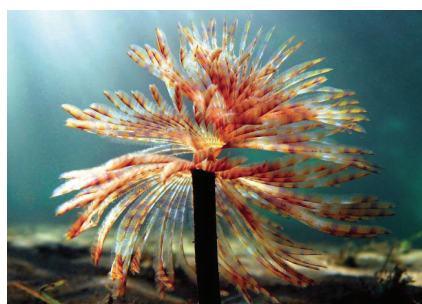
fluke



earthworm



pinworms



fan worm



peanut worm



copepod



millipede



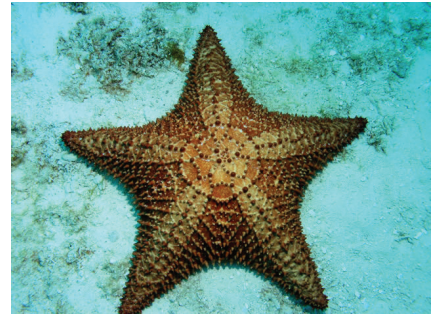
spider



moth



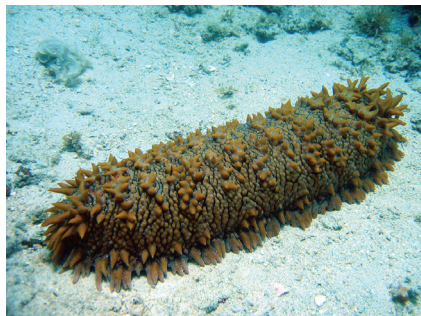
grasshopper



sea star



sand dollar



sea cucumber



sea urchin



philodina



nudibranch



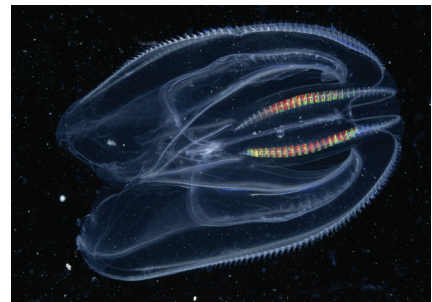
water bear



squid



tube sponge



comb jelly



tick



arrow worm



roundworms in soil



tapeworm



sea fan



razor clam



octopus



nautilus



mealworms