Mix and Match

Choose an animal when you are in the zoo and find out as much information as you can about it by observing it and reading the information.

Common Name: _____

Scientific Name: _____

Information: _____

_____

_____

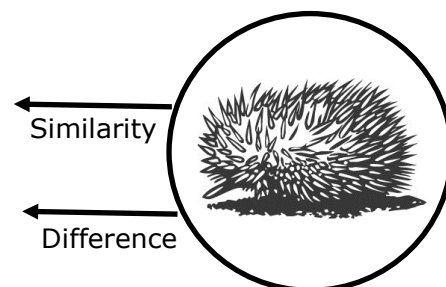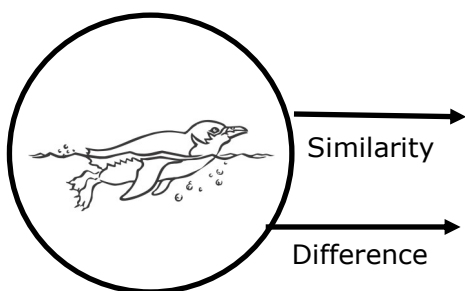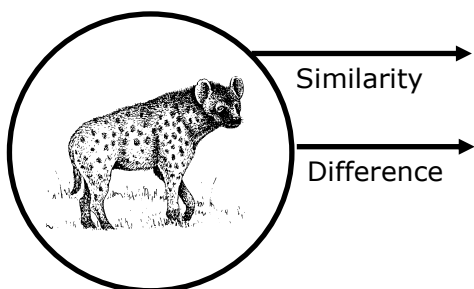_____

Pick one similarity and one difference your animal has with the following:
Hint: Visit these animals to help you.

Similarity

Difference

Similarity

Difference

Similarity

Difference

List at least 3 reasons we might have for identifying similarities and differences between animals.

_____

_____

_____

It's All in the Detail

Before photographs existed scientists had to draw and describe new species in as much detail as possible.

Imagine you are a scientist living in the early 1800's and you need to communicate a particular species with other scientists; you are not sure if they use the same common name as you.

Select a species you have seen at the zoo. Draw this species in as much detail as possible. You may annotate your drawing too, but don't use the name of the animal.

When you have finished show your drawing to a partner and see if they can guess which species you have identified. Remember that there are species that look very similar, for example, the Asian and African Elephant. Was your partner able to identify the correct one?

Biological classification has changed over time to increase accuracy. Scientists today use complex systems and detailed hierarchies.

Class Mammalia

List 3 characteristics that all mammals share.

1._____

2._____

3._____

By filling out this chart with mammals from around the zoo, you will be able to use the information to group them in several other ways.

Animal Common Name	Diet			Lifestyle		Conservation Status (Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable, Near Threatened or Least Concern)	Adaptations for Survival (e.g. Sharp Teeth, Claws, Venom)
	Herbivore	Carnivore	Omnivore	Lives in a group	Solitary		
1.							
2.							
3.							
4							
5.							

Class Aves (Birds)

List 3 characteristics that all birds share.

1._____

2._____

3._____

By filling out this chart with birds from around the zoo, you will be able to use the information to group them in several other ways.

Animal Common Name	Diet			Lifestyle		Conservation Status (Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable, Near Threatened or Least Concern)	Adaptations for Survival (e.g. Sharp Teeth, Claws, Venom)
	Herbivore	Carnivore	Omnivore	Lives in a group	Solitary		
1.							
2.							
3.							
4							
5.							

Class Reptilia

List 3 characteristics that all reptiles share.

1._____

2._____

3._____

By filling out this chart with reptiles from around the zoo, you will be able to use the information to group them in several other ways.

Animal Common Name	Diet			Lifestyle		Conservation Status (Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable, Near Threatened or Least Concern)	Adaptations for Survival (e.g. Sharp Teeth, Claws, Venom)
	Herbivore	Carnivore	Omnivore	Lives in a group	Solitary		
1.							
2.							
3.							
4							
5.							

Perth Zoo
SAVING WILDLIFE

Class Amphibia

List 3 characteristics that all amphibians share.

1._____

2._____

3._____

By filling out this chart with amphibians from around the zoo, you will be able to use the information to group them in several other ways.

| Animal Common Name	Diet			Lifestyle		Conservation Status (Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable, Near Threatened or Least Concern)	Adaptations for Survival (e.g. Sharp Teeth, Claws, Venom)
	Herbivore	Carnivore	Omnivore	Lives in a group	Solitary		
1.							
2.							
3.							

The Linnaean classification system helps identify things by grouping them, first into large and then into smaller groups.
Can you identify the groups? Unscramble the letters to help you

K_____   (dokingm)

P_____   (umphyl)

C_____   (slacs)

O_____   (dorer)

F _____   (ilfamy)

G_____   (gusen)

S_____   (spiesce)

Sometimes those groups are split further, for example, class Mammalia is split into smaller groups.
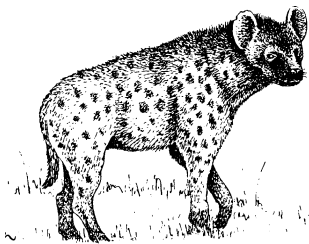
Group Name: Placental Mammals

Zoo Examples: 1)_____

2)_____

Common feature of this group: Carry their unborn offspring inside their body until they are able to survive.

Group Name: _____

Zoo Examples: 1) _____

2) _____

3)_____

Common feature of this group:
Their young are born very immature and can't live without further development (often in a pouch).

Group Name: _____

Examples: 1) Platypus

2) _____

Common feature of this group: Lays eggs

What's in a Name?

Scientific names are very important to ensure scientists across the world know that they are communicating about the same species or subspecies. Part of these names usually come from Latin or Greek words.

Can you find any animals in the zoo with all or part of the words below in their scientific name? Use the translation to guide you to the species and find their scientific name on the signs by the exhibit.

Latin/Greek Word	Translation	Scientific Name	Common Name
Maximus	Largest	*Elephas maximus*	Asian Elephant
Chelonoidis	Tortoise		
Ceratoides	Horn like		
Canis	Dog		
Macro pus	Large foot		
Imperator	Emperor		
Rufus	Red		
Cinerius	Grey		
Tachy gloss	Fast tongue		

Can you identify these mystery birds?

Look carefully at the birds in the wetland exhibit and follow the clues to name a bird that matches each of the descriptions.
(HINT: there can be more than one answer.)

Birds in the Australian Wetland exhibit

Birds that live on land

This bird could be a.................

Birds that live on water

who have feet for swimming

and a dagger-like beak for spearing fish

This bird could be a.................

and a spoon-like beak for sieving water to

This bird could be a.................

who have long legs for wading

and a strong beak for catching fish or crabs

This bird could be a.................

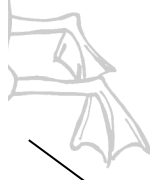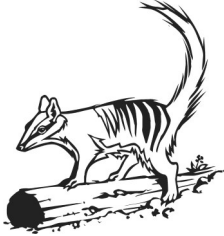**and a long, thin beak for probing into the mud**

This bird could be a ....
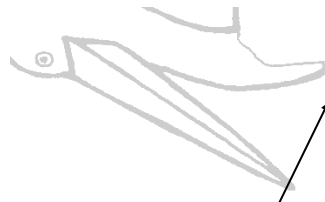
Love Your Local Wildlife

One reason for classifying species is so that we can learn as much as possible about them to be able to look after them. We also need to be able to identify them in the wild so that we can monitor how well they are doing.

Complete the following table to increase your knowledge of our amazing local species.

Species	Areas Found	Description of habitat	Diet	Active	IUCN status
Western Swamp Tortoise *Pseudemydura um-brina*	Swan coastal plain- Twin Swamps & Ellenbrook Nature Reserve	Swamps that fill with water during the winter and spring.	Carnivore: Eats small invertebrates	During the Winter when the swamps have filled with water	Critically endangered
Quokka				Diurnal Or Nocturnal (Delete as appropriate)	
Numbat				Diurnal Or Nocturnal (Delete as appropriate)	
Dibbler				Diurnal Or Nocturnal (Delete as appropriate)	

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