

Relationships

Scavenger hunt



Just as you are related to your siblings, cousins, aunts, and uncles, all living things (like plants and animals) are related to each other. We can see evidence of relationships by looking for similarities and differences between groups of related organisms.

As you explore the museum, answer the questions below to find out more about how groups of living organisms are related. When you have answered all of the questions, solve the puzzle at the bottom of the card by unscrambling the highlighted letters.

Blue Whale

Even though blue whales live in the ocean, they are most closely related to animals that walk on land. On the skeleton, what bones do you see that show this relationship?

Answer: _ _ _ _ **B** _ _ _ _

Tetrapods

Tetrapods include all animals that have four limbs, or, like whales, are descended from animals that had four limbs. What are the major groups of tetrapods? What names are given to the following groups of tetrapods?

These animals have scales: REPTILES

These animals have fur or hair: _ _ _ **B** _ _ _ _

These animals have feathers: _ _ _ _ _

Marine Invertebrates

All snails are closely related. Look at the many different snail specimens in the museum. What is one thing you can see that all snails have in common?

Answer: They all have a _ _ **B** _ _ _ _

Herbarium

Fruits develop from flowers. Even though apples, blackberries, strawberries, and peaches look different, they come from the same family of flowering plants. What group do they come from?

Answer: They come from **B** _ _ _ _ _

Explore the herbarium collection, and look at coniferous trees such as fir, pine, and spruce. What is one common characteristic of all coniferous trees?

Answer: They produce _ **B** _ _ _ _

Fish

There are two different groups of "flat" fish in the world today. Stingrays are related to sharks because they have a skeleton made of cartilage (the material inside your nose). The other group has bones. What kinds of bony fish are flat?

Answer: _ _ _ **B** _ _ _ _ , soles, and turbot

Fossils

Many animals that lived on Earth millions of years ago are related to animals that we find here today. What is a giant extinct relative of sharks?

Answer: **B** _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Entomology

Charles Darwin was one of the first people to discover that similarities between plants, animals and other living things could be used to figure out which species are most closely related. In this collection, you can find a great diversity of one group of animals that Darwin liked to collect as a young man.

Answer: **B** _ _ _ _ _ **S**

Use the highlighted letters from your answers above to solve the puzzle!

What am I?

I grow out of the ground, but I am not a plant. I must eat food in order to survive, but I am not an animal. I am a popular food for people. I can be found displayed in the museum. What am I?

Answer: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _