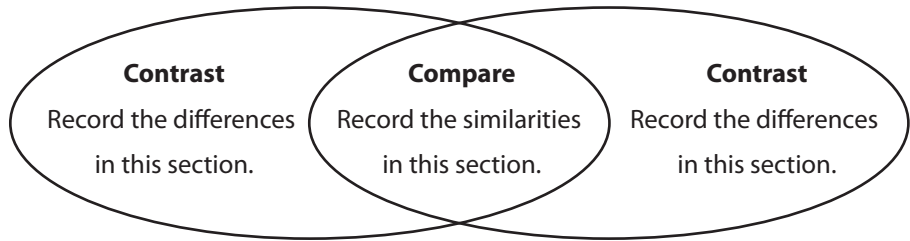


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Compare and Contrast: Vertebrates and Invertebrates

\*When we **compare** and **contrast**, we look for the similarities and differences.



**Directions:** Using two informational texts, complete the graphic organizer.

Many different animals share our planet with us. Many are alike, and many are different. Scientists classify animals based on their similarities. One way scientists group animals is whether or not those animals have a backbone.

## Vertebrates

Animals that have a unique backbone fit into the category of vertebrates. They make up a small part of the animal kingdom.

Some animals, like dogs, cats, birds, lizards, fish, and humans, have backbones. These are examples of vertebrates.

These animals have a skeleton inside their bodies that is made of bone. Their brain is covered by a skull. These animals are usually big in size. They are usually able to move fast.

Vertebrates live in a variety of habitats. Their bodies allow them to adapt to different environments.

## Invertebrates

Most of the animal kingdom fits into the category of invertebrates. These are the animals that do not have a backbone.

Animals such as squid, worms, bugs, and clams do not have backbones. These are examples of invertebrates.

Invertebrates are usually smaller and slow-moving. Without bones, their bodies are not as strong. They do not move as easily.

Invertebrates live in a variety of habitats. They can be found anywhere from caves and deserts, to forests and oceans.



## Vertebrates

## Invertebrates

