

Evolution

Name:

Classifying Organisms

Period:

Use Chapter 11, Section 1 of your textbook to answer the questions below. The word bank can be used to fill out the sentences below.

branching diagrams classification characteristics common ancestor usefulness

Section 1: Sorting It All Out (p.332)

1. Placing things into groups based on similar characteristics is called _____.

Why Classify? (p.332)

2. For a long time, humans have classified living things based upon _____.

_____ 3. What do scientists hope to learn by classifying organisms?
a. which living thing is strongest c. which species has the most members
b. the relationships between different species d. how species get along

How Do Scientists Classify Organisms? (p.333)

4. What is the name of the person who founded modern taxonomy? _____

_____ 5. What do taxonomists (people who study taxonomy) do?
a. name organisms b. classify organisms c. describe organisms d. all of these things

Classification Today (p.333)

6. Today, scientists use _____ levels of classification.

7. Many kinds of organisms share a characteristic of their most recent _____.

8. Scientists can use _____ to figure out how closely related organisms are.

_____ 9. What do closely related living things share?
a. size only b. shape only c. many characteristics d. color and size only

_____ 10. What characteristics do platypuses, brown bears, lions, and house cats all share?
a. giving birth to live young c. ability to purr
b. retractable claws d. hair and mammary glands

Branching Diagrams (p.333)

11. _____ show when organisms evolved and which characteristics they share.

_____ 12. Look closely at Figure 2. What do house cats have that lions don't have?
a. ability to purr c. hair and mammary glands
b. retractable claws d. giving birth to live young

_____ 13. Which of the following pairs of animals is the most closely related?
a. lions and house cats c. house cats and platypuses
b. lions and platypuses d. house cats and brown bears

_____ 14. What characteristic is shared by bears, lions, and cats?
a. hooves b. giving birth to live young c. cold blooded d. mane and tail

_____ 15. Which animal evolved the most recently?
a. platypus b. brown bear c. lion d. house cat

