

Backbone or No Backbone

Name _____

The animal kingdom can be divided into two groups, **vertebrates** and **invertebrates**. Vertebrates are animals with backbones. The backbone is made of several bones called **vertebrae**. Each vertebra is separated by a thin disc of cartilage. The backbone supports the body and helps the animal move.

Invertebrates are animals without backbones. Have you ever looked closely at an ant or fly? They do not have a backbone or any other bones in their bodies. Some invertebrates, like crabs and lobsters, have hard, outer-body coverings. Some invertebrates, like worms, are soft all the way through their bodies.

Circle all of the hidden animals in the puzzle below. Then list them in their own group.

Word Bank

butterfly	skunk
cow	snail
crayfish	snake
deer	spider
dog	swan
fish	wasp
grasshopper	worm

N J W O R M E Z R A C D
 G R A S S H O P P E R E
 F K B P D S W A N P A E
 S N A I L Q W C S X Y R
 K E V D O G A I N C F G
 U P S E A J S S A O I X
 N O L R W M P H K F S C
 K T F I S H G B E Y H O
 U B U T T E R F L Y T W

Vertebrates

Invertebrates

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Find Out

About 1,000,000 kinds of animals have been classified by scientists. Only 45,000 are vertebrates. How many are invertebrates?

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: [Illegible]

1. [Illegible]

2. [Illegible]

Copy

Very truly yours,
[Illegible]