

## Nova's Classification Challenge

*Learning objective: To identify and classify living things into broad groups according to observable characteristics and use classification keys.*

Join Nova the owl as she explores the forest! Use your knowledge of classification keys to answer these 10 questions. Remember, a good key helps us group living things based on their features.

Answer Key: 1. B, 2. True, 3. Vertebrate, 4. C, 5. False, 6. D, 7. True, 8. Invertebrate, 9. A, 10. False. Classification keys are tools used to group living things by asking 'yes' or 'no' questions about their physical features.

*Word bank: Invertebrate · Vertebrate · Characteristic · Classification · Key · Micro-organism · Mammal · Amphibian*

**1. 1. Nova is looking at a creature with a backbone. What is this group called? A) Invertebrate B) Vertebrate\* C) Plant D) Fungi (1 mark)**

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**2. 2. True or False: A classification key uses a series of questions to help identify an organism. (1 mark)**

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**3. 3. If an animal does not have a backbone, what is the scientific name for this group? (1 mark)**

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**4. 4. Which of these is a key characteristic used to classify a mammal? A) Lays eggs B) Has feathers C) Feeds young with milk\* D) Has cold blood (1 mark)**

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**5. 5. True or False: All living things that live in water are classified as fish. (1 mark)**

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**6. 6. Which question would be most helpful at the start of a classification key? A) Does it like cheese? B) Is it blue? C) Does it have legs?\* D) Does it have a name? (1 mark)**

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**7. 7. True or False: Classification keys can be presented as a branching diagram. (1 mark)**

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**8. 8. An insect has six legs and no backbone. Is it a vertebrate or an invertebrate? (1 mark)**

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**9. 9. Which group of animals has moist skin and spends part of its life in water? A) Amphibian\* B) Bird C) Reptile D) Mammal (1 mark)**

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**10. 10. True or False: A classification key should always have more than 100 questions. (1 mark)**

**Draw: Draw a simple branching classification key that helps Nova identify three different animals found in a garden (e.g., a beetle, a robin, and a frog).**



*Extension challenge: Design your own classification key for five different items in your classroom (e.g., stationery items). Ensure your questions result in a unique 'yes' or 'no' path for each item.*