

ANIMAL CLASSIFICATION CHART



Time: approximately 45-60 minutes

Instructional Goals:

- The student will use the PebbleGo online database to research animals and their classifications.
- The student will use subject directory searching to locate needed information.
- The student will categorize and sort animals by their classification.
- The student will create a table illustrating the classifications of various animals.

Materials/Resources:

- **PebbleGo** online database
- **Animal Classification Chart**
- **Which Classification?** list of animals
- Venn diagrams (for extension and enrichment)

Directions:

Focus

1. Ask students, "What are different ways that we can sort and categorize animals?" Some ways may be by how many feet they have, how they move, what covers their bodies, etc.
2. Explain to students that scientists have developed different ways to sort and categorize animals, and one of those ways is through the Animal Classification System. In this system, scientists group animals into the following categories: amphibians, birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, and insects. Animals in each of these categories share special characteristics, such as the number of feet they have, how they move, what covers their bodies, etc.
3. Explain to students that they are going to research different animals to determine which Animal Classification category they belong in. They are going to use an online database called **PebbleGo** as their research source.

Teach/Model

4. Walk students through the process of accessing the **PebbleGo** online database.
5. Show students how subject directory searching works by clicking on Mammals on the homepage and investigating the different mammal directories.
6. Demonstrate how students can retrace their steps by using the red back button.
7. Demonstrate the read-aloud function when the mouse hovers over the subject directory buttons on the homepage.

Guided Practice



8. Ask students how they can use the **PebbleGo** online database to discover whether an eel is an amphibian, bird, fish, mammal, or reptile.
9. Have students lead you through the process of clicking on the different subject directories on the homepage until the class finds eels under the fish classification.

Independent Practice

10. Either divide students into pairs or have them work independently. Give each student an **Animal Classification Chart** and **Which Classification?** list of animals they are to sort and categorize.
11. Explain to students that they are to use the subject directory on the homepage in **PebbleGo** to figure out where the different animals on the **Which Classification?** list of animals go in the **Animal Classification Chart**. Students will cut out the animals on the **Which Classification?** list and paste them into the appropriate place on the **Animal Classification Chart**.
12. Monitor student progress as they work to complete the **Animal Classification Chart**.

Closure

13. Bring students together as a whole group to discuss the **Animal Classification Chart**. Go through the chart to ensure everyone has the animals under the correct section of the chart.
14. Ask students if they notice anything different between the animals listed under mammals and the animals classified as fish. Answers may include mammals have hair and fish don't, mammals have feet and fish don't, etc.
15. Ask students if they notice anything that is the same between the mammals and the fish. Answers may include that they both have mouths, they both see, etc.

Extend/Enrich

- Students may create **Venn diagrams** comparing two or more animal classification groups using their **Animal Classification Charts**.
- Students may create different charts for categorizing and sorting animals of their choice using information from the **PebbleGo** online database.
- Students may use subject directory searching in the **PebbleGo** online database to locate additional animals to add to their **Animal Classification Charts**.
- Students may extend their learning about the Animal Classification System by exploring the Animal Classification section of the **PebbleGo** online database.
- Students may create generalizations about each animal classification group, such as "fish live in water."

Name: _____

Date: _____

Animal Classification Chart

Amphibians	Birds	Fish	Insects	Mammals	Reptiles

Which Classification?

Research each animal using **PebbleGo**. Cut out the animal and paste it on your **Animal Classification Chart**.



frogs



angelfish



penguins



chipmunks



eagles



tiger sharks



turtles



ants



polar bears



ladybugs



salamanders



pythons