

## How to Use Sorting Vocabulary Cards

Begin by naturally exposing the children to the new vocabulary by regularly using it in conversations, by noticing the actual animals in their natural environment, and by reading aloud books that feature the animals. Then, use these cards in 3-period lessons. **Period 1:** Place 3 or 4 cards on a clean workspace. Touch and name the first card. Say, "This is a cardinal." Encourage the child to repeat the word. Repeat this for the other cards. **Period 2:** Move your hands away and say, "Show me the cardinal." The child should point to, pick up, or touch the cardinal card. If not, simply use your own hand to point to the correct card and repeat period 1. Continue to ask the child to "show you" the other photos. Keep it lively by asking him/her to put the cards in different locations. Have fun! **Period 3:** Point to a card and say, "What is this?" If the child does not say the name, simply return to period 2. **Sorting:** With a child who is a strong phonetic reader, lay the sorting labels across the top of your work area. Sort the photo-only cards under the matching label (e.g., cardinal under birds). Inspire the child to repeat their work alone or with a friend.

### Anfibios



### Pájaros



### Peces



### Mamíferos



### Reptiles



## Vertebrados

Vertebrates (vertebrados) are a type of chordate. Chordates are animals that have a spinal cord and internal skeleton at some point during their development. An internal skeleton is what allows vertebrates to grow much larger than most invertebrates. There are five primary types of vertebrates (listed in evolutionary order):

- Fish
- Amphibians
- Reptiles
- Birds
- Mammals

## **Anfibios**

Amphibians (anfibios) are vertebrates that live part of their life on land and part in water. Amphibians have moist skin and are cold-blooded; their body temperature is the same as the temperature of their environment.

Amphibians lay eggs (usually in water) that hatch into larvae or tadpoles. Most young live in water and breathe through gills. Most adults breathe through their skin. Adults may have land-dwelling (eg, red-spotted eft) and aquatic (eg, red-spotted newt) stages.

Many adult amphibians have glands that produce poison. The poison may be simply distasteful or deadly.

## **Pájaros**

Birds (pájaros) are vertebrates. They are the only animals that have feathers. They are warm-blooded (their feathers help them to maintain their body temperature), have wings, and their bones are hollow. Birds have beaks instead of teeth. Most birds can fly.

Birds lay eggs that hatch into young. In some birds, hatchlings have downy feathers and can move around easily only a few hours after hatching. In others, hatchlings are born without feathers, blind, and dependent on their parents for many weeks.

## **Peces**

Fish (peces) are vertebrates that live in the water and breathe through gills. There are three different classes of fish: jawless fish (like the lamprey eel), cartilaginous fish (like sharks), and bony fish (like goldfish).

All fish have a special sensory organ, called the lateral line, which helps them detect pressure changes in the water. Most fish have scales, fins, and are cold-blooded; their body temperature is the same as the temperature of their environment.

Most fish lay eggs that hatch into larvae. The larvae undergo a rapid metamorphosis (within a few weeks) into miniature adults. Some fish, including most sharks, give birth to live young.

## **Mamíferos**

Mammals (mamíferos) are vertebrates that feed their young milk produced by the female's mammary glands. Mammals are warm-blooded—they maintain a constant body temperature. Most mammals have a covering of hair (to help maintain body temperature) and give birth to live young. Compared to other vertebrates, mammals have the largest brains (relative to body size).

## **Reptiles**

Reptiles are vertebrates with a tough, dry outer skin that is usually scaly. They breathe air and are cold-blooded; their body temperature is the same as the temperature of their environment. Most reptiles live on land in warm regions. They may hibernate in areas with cool winters.

Some reptiles give birth to live young. Most lay eggs.