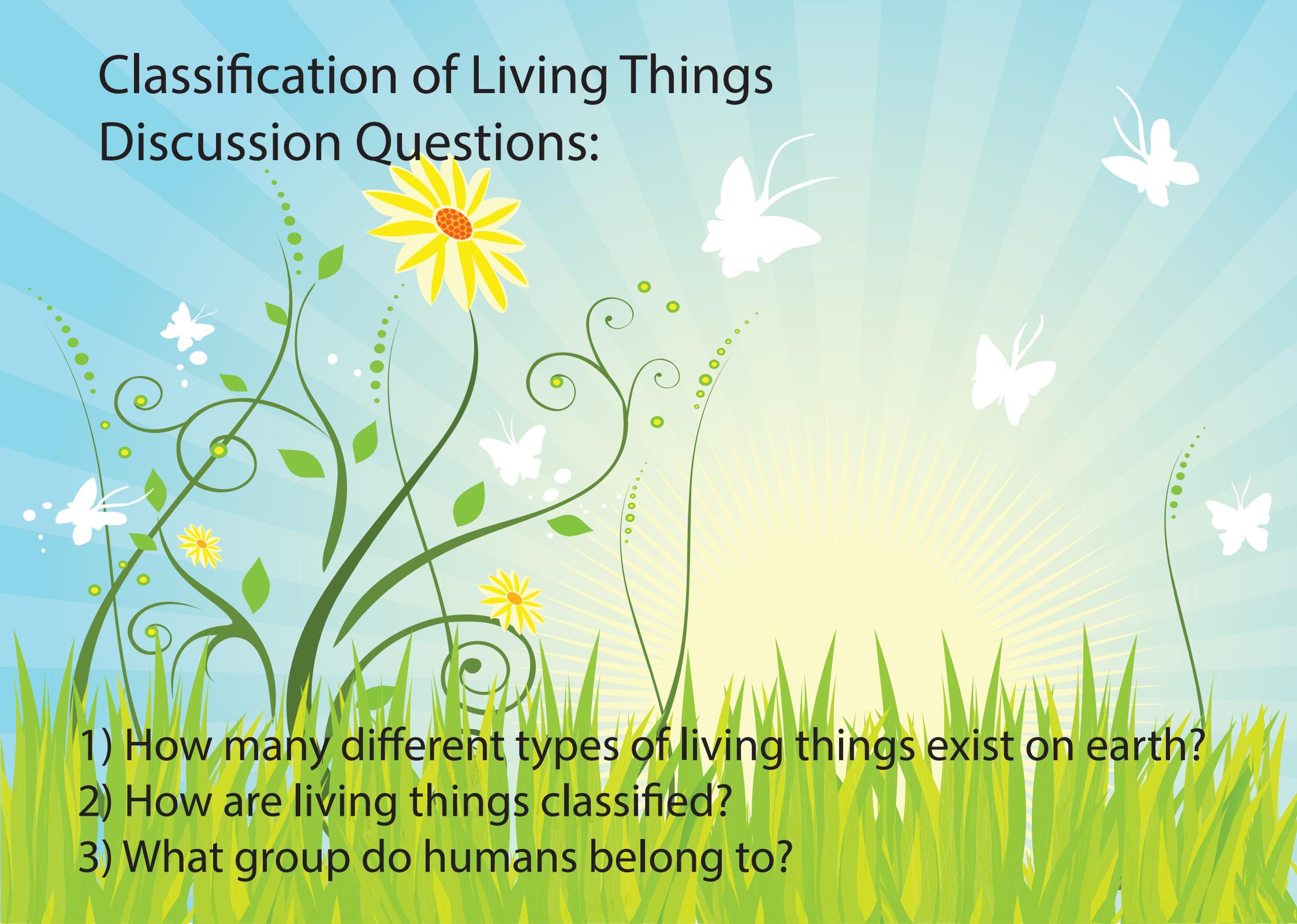


# Classification of Living Things

## Discussion Questions:

- 
- 1) How many different types of living things exist on earth?
  - 2) How are living things classified?
  - 3) What group do humans belong to?

# KINGDOMS

Nobody knows how many species of life there are living on the planet. One scientific study has estimated that there are 8 700 000 different species of organisms living on earth today. With 6.5 million species found on land and 2.2 million living in the world's oceans.

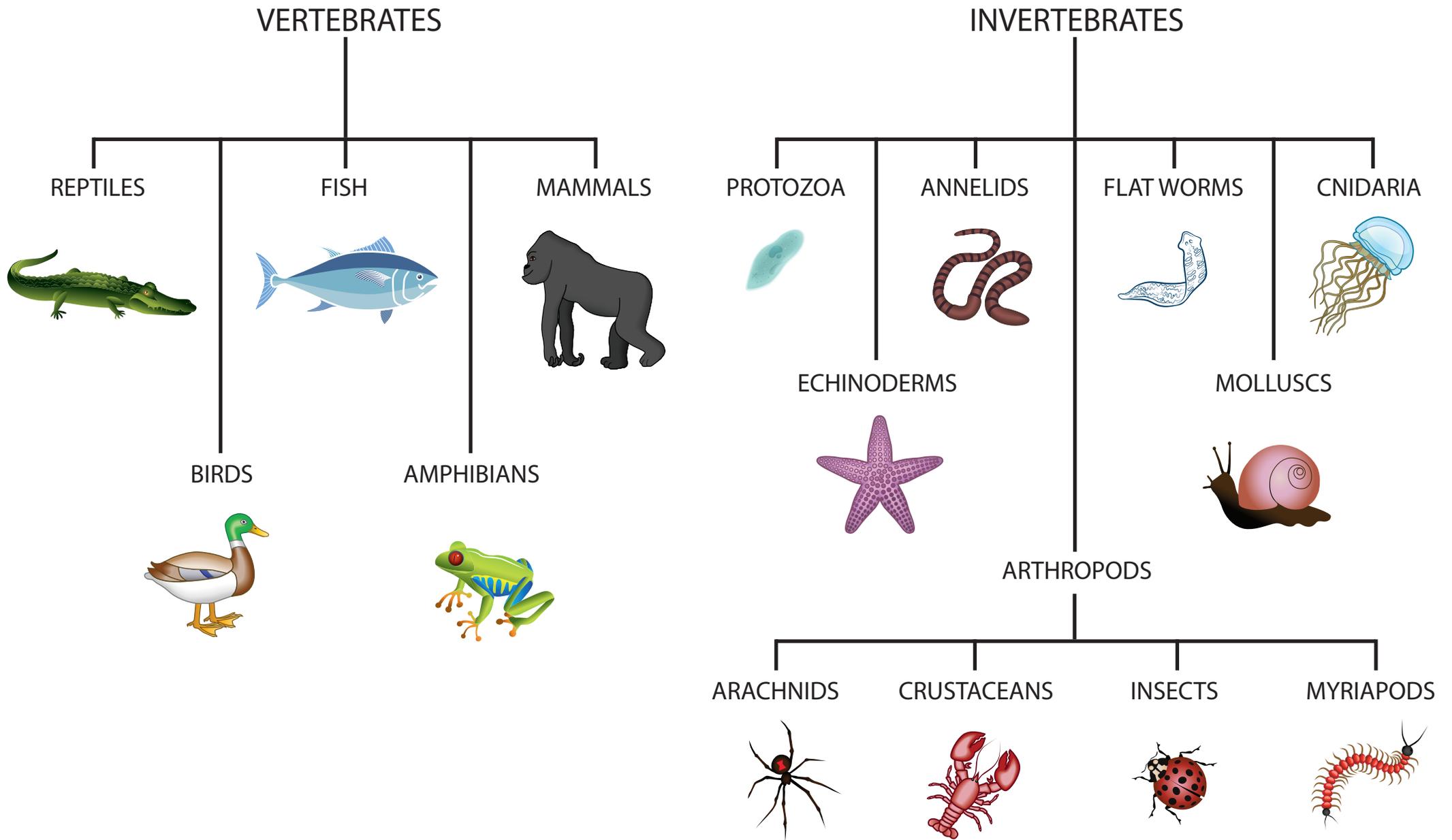
Only 1.3 million species of life have been formally described, so this study suggests that a staggering 86% land life and 91% ocean life is yet to be discovered! \*

In 1998, Thomas Cavalier-Smith, professor of Evolutionary Biology at Oxford University suggested the following Kingdoms for classifying life on earth:

Bacteria	microorganisms
Chromista	algae
Protozoa	often microscopic, single celled organisms
Plantae	green plant life
Fungi	fungi, including mushrooms moulds and mildew
Animalia	animal life

\* Viruses are not included in this classification system.

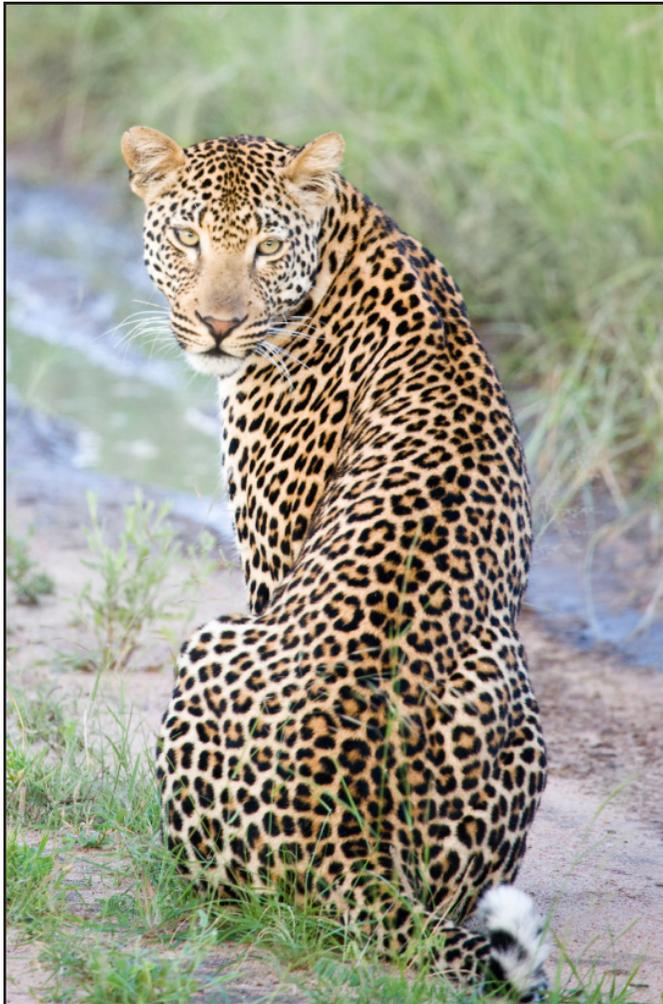
# THE ANIMAL KINGDOM



Not all sub groups of Invertebrates shown in this chart.

# CLASSIFICATION OF ANIMALS

Animals are grouped together according to their physical features. Each group consists of smaller groups of animals that share similar features. There may be many different species of a type of animal. Scientific names are used to avoid confusion. These names are often latin.



For example

A leopard falls into the following groups:

Kingdom: Animalia (The animal kingdom)

Phylum: Chordata (The vertebrates)

Class: Mammalia (The mammals)

Order: Carnivora (The carnivores, meat eaters)

Family: Felidae (The feline family, cat family)

Genus: Panthera (The big cats)

Species: Panthera Pardus (Leopard)

There are nine sub-species of leopard.

