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美国中小學生拓展讀本

阅读广角

Level 5C

Life Science & Health

生命科学 & 健康



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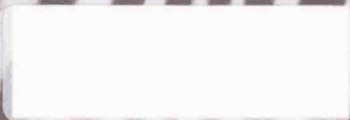
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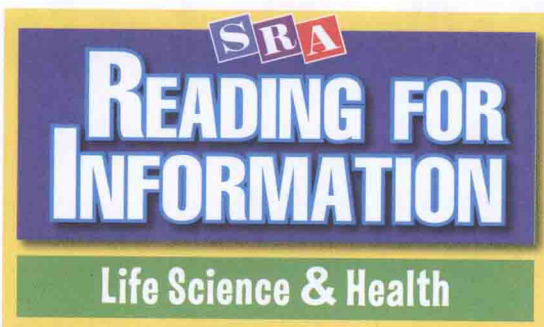



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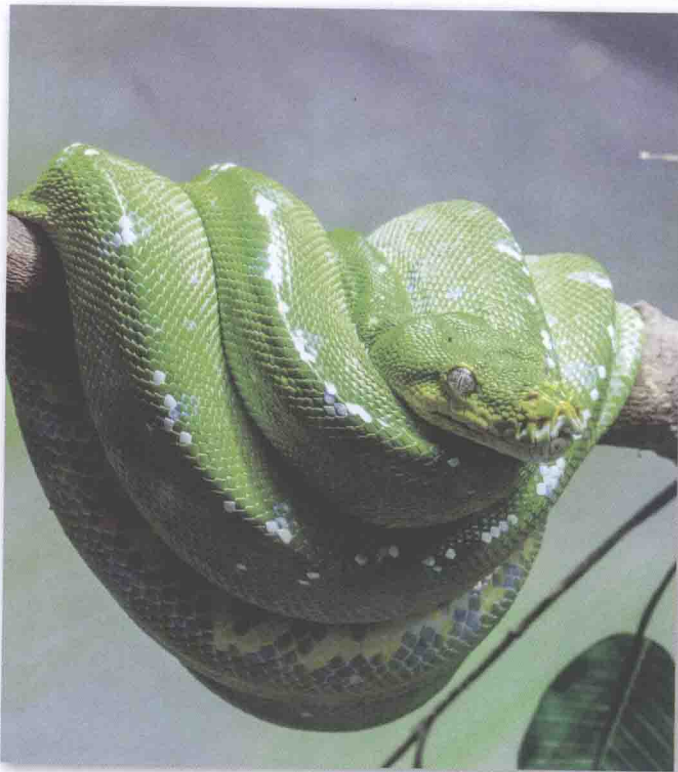
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LIFE SCIENCE

Organizing Living Things



Before You Read

Here are some things you can do to help you read for information.

Features **Headings and Subheadings**

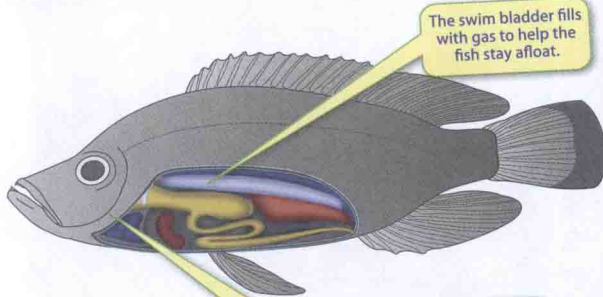
Headings and subheadings help you predict what the main ideas in a text will be. Look at the heading and the subheading on page 14. How do they help you predict what the main ideas will be?

Six Classes of Animals with Backbones

In the classification system, all vertebrates are grouped into the phylum called Chordata. Fish, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals are in this phylum. The next level of classification, which is more specific, is class. On the next few pages, you will read about six classes of vertebrates.

Bony Fish

Name a fish, any fish. Did you say "goldfish"? Maybe you said "tuna". Almost any kind of fish you named would be in the class of bony fish because this class includes 96% of all fish. Bony fish are made of bone. Like all fish, bony fish are cold-blooded. Their blood is always about the same temperature as their surroundings. Two things that make bony fish unique are swim bladders and gill covers.



The swim bladder fills with gas to help the fish stay afloat.

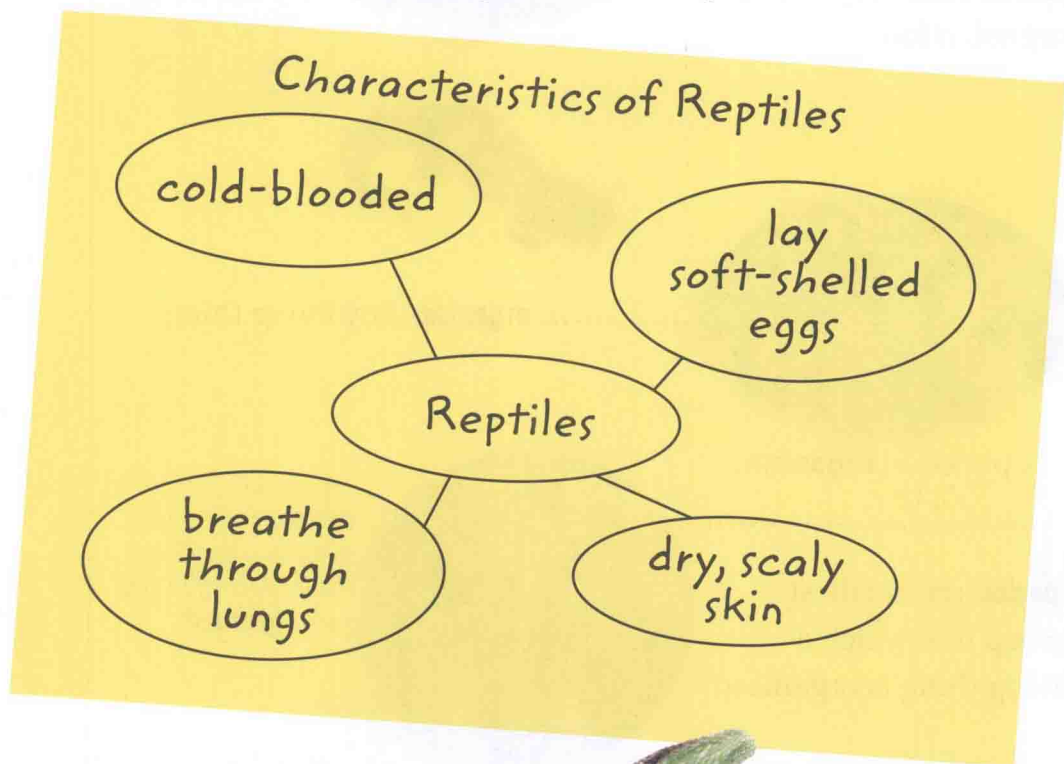
The gill cover is a flap that moves back and forth. It pushes water into the fish's gills, which allows the fish to breathe without swimming.

Headings tell you what the "big idea" is.

Subheadings tell you what the important ideas within the "big idea" are.

Structures Description

Description is the use of details to give a complete picture of something. Look at the first paragraph on page 17. It describes reptiles. You can use a web like the one below to help you remember important details that are part of a description.



B Vocabulary Words to Know

classification a system of organization



In the **classification** system, these two animals belong in the same group.



organism any living thing

A plant is an **organism**.

species the smallest group into which a living thing is organized



These are different **species** of bears. Why do you think they belong in the same **genus**?

genus a group made up of two or more species that are alike in many ways





similar alike but not exactly the same

In what ways are a dog and a wolf **similar**?

specific exact



A map gives the name of **specific** places, such as cities.

Organizing Living Things

Are You Organized?

How organized are you? Do you organize your CDs based on the type of music or the name of the artist? Are your video games grouped in a **specific** way? If so, you are using a system of organization. You are grouping things together that are alike in some way. This makes it easy for you to find what you are looking for.

Scientists use systems of organization too. They use a system to organize the millions of different kinds of living things on Earth. An **organism** is any living thing. Scientists group organisms that are alike in some way. This makes it easier to study organisms and compare them.

The Big Question

Why do scientists use a system to organize all of the living things on Earth?





What Is the Classification System?

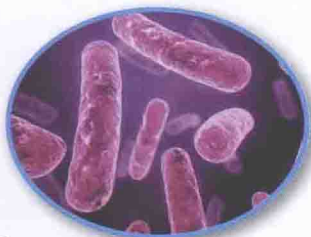
Carolus Linnaeus /li'ni(:)əs/ lived about 300 years ago. He developed the first system of **classification**, or system of organization, for grouping plants and animals based on how they are alike. The classification system scientists use today is a lot like Linnaeus's system. That's why Linnaeus is called the "father" of the classification system.

Groups of Living Things

According to scientists, there are six groups of living things. An **organism** is any living thing. Examples of organisms in each group are listed on this page. Each group has a Latin name.

How
Do You
Say It?

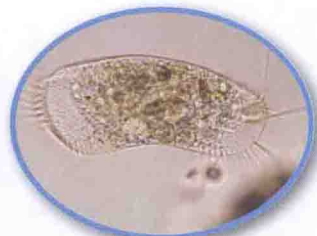
Eubacteria
/ju:bæk'tɪəriə/
Archaeobacteria
/ɑ:kɪbæk'tɪəriə/



Eubacteria
bacteria (all are
microscopic)



Archaeobacteria
bacteria-like organisms
(all are microscopic)



Protista
protozoa, algae, amoeba
(most are microscopic)



Fungi
mushrooms, molds



Plantae
flowering plants, cone-
bearing plants, mosses



Animalia
mammals, fish, birds,
reptiles, amphibians

A Name for Every Living Thing

Some organisms have several different common names. One common name for a firefly is a lightning bug. In Spanish, a firefly is called a luciérnaga. Firefly, lightning bug, and luciérnaga are all common names for the same insect. The scientific name for a firefly, however, is *Photinus pyralis*. Every organism that is classified has a two-part scientific name. A scientific name is written in Latin. Even *you* have a scientific name. It's *Homo sapiens*, which means “intelligent man”.

Why Use Latin Names?

Carolus Linnaeus developed the system for naming organisms. He used the Latin language to set up his system. Many scholars used Latin at that time. Scientists all over the world still use Latin for scientific names. So, the scientific name for a firefly is *Photinus pyralis* whether you are in China, Mexico, France, or the United States. This way, all scientists know they are talking about the same organism.



There are more than 350,000 different kinds of beetles! Did you know that a lightning bug is a kind of beetle?