

COLLEGE ZOOLOGY

BY

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PREFACE

This book is intended to serve as a text for beginning students in universities and colleges, or for students who have already taken a course in general biology and wish to gain a more comprehensive view of the animal kingdom. It differs from many of the college textbooks of zoology now on the market in several important respects: (1) the animals and their organs are not only described, but their functions are pointed out; (2) the animals described are in most cases native species; and (3) the relations of the animals to man are emphasized. Besides serving as a textbook, it is believed that this book will be of interest to the general reader, since it gives a bird's-eye view of the entire animal kingdom as we know it at the present time.

Within the past decade there has been a tendency for teachers of zoology to pay less attention to morphology and more to physiology. As a prominent morphologist recently said, "Morphology . . . is no longer in favor . . . and among a section of the zoological world has almost fallen into disgrace" (Bourne). The study of the form and structure of animals is, however, of fundamental importance, and is absolutely necessary before physiological processes can be fully understood; but a course which is built up on the "old-fashioned morphological lines" is no longer adequate for the presentation of zoological principles.

In writing this book the author has attempted, not only to describe the most important structural features of the various types of animals, but also to point out the vital phenomena as expressed in the functions of the organs. Furthermore, an endeavor has been made to compare the animals in each phylum with those of the members of nearly related phyla, so that the

student may realize the unity as well as the variety in animal life.

So far as possible in a limited space, the relations of the animals to other animals, to plants, and to environmental factors in general are considered, and the animals of special economic importance are emphasized. By this method the student is brought into closer contact with and gains a broader idea of natural phenomena. Questions naturally arise in the student's mind, such as, "Where does the animal live?" "What does the animal do?" and "What is this or that particular organ for?" and stimulate interest in the work leading to more careful observations and more accurate inferences.

Each phylum is introduced by a more or less complete account of the anatomy, physiology, and ecology of one, or in certain cases, two or more types. These types were selected with the following requirements in mind: (1) they must represent as nearly as possible an average of the phylum; (2) they must illustrate clearly the characteristics of the phylum so as to serve as an introduction to a comparative study of other members of the group; (3) they must be common native species which can be obtained for direct observations in the laboratory; (4) they must occupy an important position in the animal series; and (5) they must be of special importance to man. Very few types fulfill all of these requirements; in several cases two types have been employed because one was not considered adequate.

It is impossible in one small volume to describe as many different animals under each phylum as might be desired, or to give a full classification of each group. However, a general idea of the various kinds of animals and their habitats can be obtained from the short account included in each chapter. The species mentioned are in most cases the commonest and most representative of those living in North America.

More space has been devoted to the Chordata than to any other phylum, and the classes under the subphylum Vertebrata have been treated in a somewhat different manner from those of the invertebrates. It is customary in studying the

vertebrates to select one species as a type to be examined in considerable detail, and then to compare species belonging to the other classes with it. The animal usually chosen for detailed study is the frog, and this form has therefore been treated more fully in this book than any other vertebrate type. The vertebrates are, as a rule, larger than the invertebrates, are fewer in number, and are usually more interesting to beginning students; they are, on the whole, better known than the invertebrates and more easily observed. For these reasons they have been discussed largely from the natural history standpoint, and it is hoped that this treatment will give students a better idea of the everyday events in the lives of the more common vertebrates than can be obtained from a purely morphological course.

A book covering such a large field as this one must necessarily be more or less of a compilation, and the facts and figures must be selected from numerous textbooks and scientific periodicals. The sources from which the author has obtained a large part of his material are as follows:—

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In an endeavor to avoid as many errors as possible, the manuscript of most of the chapters has been read by zoologists who are authorities in the special field treated therein. It is a great pleasure to thank these gentlemen in this place for the invaluable assistance they have rendered. I am indebted to Professor A. S. Pearse for reading Chapters I-IX; to Mr. Peter Okkelberg for reading the entire manuscript; to Professor G. N. Calkins for reading Chapter II; to Professor H. V. Wilson for reading Chapter IV; to Professor Charles W. Hargitt for reading Chapters V and VI; to Professor W. C. Curtis for reading Chapters VII and IX; to Dr. G. R. La Rue for reading Chapter VII; to Dr. B. H. Ransom for reading Chapter VIII; to Dr. Hubert Lyman Clark for reading Chapter X; to Professor J. Percy Moore for reading Chapter XI; to Mr. H. B. Baker for reading Chapter XII; to Professor A. E. Ortmann for reading the part of Chapter XIII relating to the Crustacea, Onychophora, and Myriapoda; to Professor Vernon L. Kellogg for reading the part of Chapter XIII relating to Insecta; to Mr. J. H. Emerton for reading the part of Chapter XIII relating to the Arachnida; to Professor Alexander G. Ruthven for reading Chapters XIV-XIX; to Professor B. M. Allen for reading Chapter XIV; to Mr. R. E. Richardson for reading Chapters XV-XVII; to Professor Lynds Jones for reading Chapter XX; and to Mr. Marcus W. Lyon, Jr., and Mr. N. Hollister for reading Chapter XXI. I am also indebted to Dr. A. F. Shull for reading a large part of the proof, and to my wife for her especially valuable assistance in reading proof and preparing the index.

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CONTENTS

	<small>PAGE</small>
PREFACE	v
TABLE OF THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE ANIMAL KINGDOM	xix

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION	I
1. General Survey of the Animal Kingdom	I
2. Living Matter contrasted with Non-living Matter	8
3. The Physical Basis of Life — Protoplasm	10
4. The Origin of Life	12
5. The Cell and the Cell Theory	12
6. Plants contrasted with Animals	18
7. Classification	21
8. The Principal Phyla of the Animal Kingdom	23
9. Zoology and its Subsciences	25

CHAPTER II

PHYLUM PROTOZOA	27
1. Class I. Rhizopoda	27
a, <i>Ameba proteus</i> , 27 ; b, Rhizopoda in General, 39.	
2. Class II. Mastigophora	41
a, <i>Euglena viridis</i> , 41 ; b, Mastigophora in General, 45.	
3. Class III. Sporozoa	48
a, <i>Monocystis</i> , 48 ; b, <i>Plasmodium vivax</i> , 50 ; c, Sporozoa in General, 52.	
4. Class IV. Infusoria	53
a, <i>Paramecium caudatum</i> , 53 ; b, Infusoria in General, 62.	
5. Protozoa in General	65
6. Pathogenic Protozoa	70

CHAPTER III

	PAGE
AN INTRODUCTION TO THE METAZOA	73
1. Germ Cells and Somatic Cells	73
2. Tissues	73
3. Organs and Systems of Organs	74
4. Reproduction	76
5. The Forms of Animals	79
	90

CHAPTER IV

PHYLUM PORIFERA	92
1. Structure of a Simple Sponge — <i>Leucosolenia</i> :	92
2. Anatomy and Physiology of <i>Grantia</i>	94
3. The Fresh-water Sponge — <i>Spongilla</i>	98
4. Sponges in General	99

CHAPTER V

PHYLUM CŒLENTERATA	108
1. The Fresh-water Polyp — <i>Hydra</i>	108
2. Class I. Hydrozoa	118
a, A Colonial Hydrozoon — <i>Obelia</i> , 119; b, Metagenesis, 122; c, A Jellyfish or Medusa — <i>Gonionemus</i> , 122; d, Hydroid and Medusa Compared, 124; e, Polymorphism, 126; f, Reproduction in the Hydrozoa, 127; g, Classification of the Hydrozoa, 128.	
3. Class II. Scyphozoa	129
a, A Scyphozoan Jellyfish — <i>Aurelia</i> , 129; b, Classification of the Scyphozoa, 132.	
4. Class III. Anthozoa	133
a, A Sea Anemone — <i>Metridium</i> , 134; b, A Coral Polyp, 137; c, Coral Reefs and Atolls, 138; d, Classification of the Anthozoa, 139.	
5. Cœlenterates in General	142

CHAPTER VI

PHYLUM CTENOPHORA	145
------------------------------------	------------

CHAPTER VII

	PAGE
PHYLUM PLATYHELMINTHES	150
1. A Fresh-water Flatworm — <i>Planaria</i>	150
2. Class I. Turbellaria	155
3. Class II. Trematoda	157
a, The Liver Fluke — <i>Fasciola hepatica</i> , 157; b, Trematoda in General, 161.	
4. Class III. Cestoda	163
a, The Tapeworm — <i>Tenia</i> , 163; b, Cestoda in General, 165.	
5. Flatworms in General	166

CHAPTER VIII

PHYLUM NEMATHELMINTHES	169
1. A Parasitic Round Worm — <i>Ascaris lumbricoides</i>	169
2. Nemathelminthes in General	173

CHAPTER IX

INVERTEBRATES OF MORE OR LESS UNCERTAIN SYSTEMATIC POSITION	176
1. Mesozoa	176
2. Nemertinea	177
3. Nematomorpha	179
4. Acanthocephala	180
5. Chætognatha	180
6. Rotifera	181
7. Bryozoa	183
8. Phoronidea	185
9. Brachiopoda	185
10. Gephyrea	186

CHAPTER X

PHYLUM ECHINODERMATA	189
1. Anatomy and Physiology of the Starfish — <i>Asterias</i>	190
2. Class I. Asteroidea — Starfishes	198

	PAGE
3. Class II. Ophiuroidea — Brittle Stars	199
4. Class III. Echinoidea — Sea Urchins	202
5. Class IV. Holothurioidea — Sea Cucumbers	205
6. Class V. Crinoidea — Sea-lilies or Feather-stars	208
7. Development of Echinoderms	210
8. Artificial Parthenogenesis	212
9. The Position of Echinoderms in the Animal Kingdom	213

CHAPTER XI

PHYLUM ANELIDA	215
1. The Earthworm — <i>Lumbricus</i>	215
2. Classification of Annelids	231
3. Class I. Archiannelida	232
4. Class II. Chætopoda	233
5. Class III. Hirudinea	236
6. Annelids in General	240

CHAPTER XII

PHYLUM MOLLUSCA	242
1. The Pearly Fresh-water Mussel — <i>Anodonta</i> and the <i>Unio</i> nes	243
2. Class I. Amphineura	251
3. Class II. Gastropoda	252
a, A Land-snail, 253; b, Gastropoda in General, 258.	
4. Class III. Scaphopoda	261
5. Class IV. Pelecypoda	261
6. Class V. Cephalopoda	264
a, The Common Squid — <i>Loligo</i> , 264; b, Cephalopoda in General, 267.	
7. Mollusca in General	269

CHAPTER XIII

PHYLUM ARTHROPODA	274
1. Introduction	274

CONTENTS

xv

	PAGE
2. Class I. Crustacea	276
a, The Crayfish — <i>Cambarus</i> , 276; b, Crustacea in General, 292.	
3. Class II. Onychophora	305
4. Class III. Myriapoda	308
5. Class IV. Insecta	312
a, The Honey-bee, 312; b, The Anatomy and Physiology of Insects in General, 328; c, General Survey of the Orders of Insects, 336; d, The Economic Importance of Insects, 370.	
6. Class V. Arachnida	371
a, The Spiders, 371; b, Other Arachnida, 377.	

CHAPTER XIV

PHYLUM CHORDATA: INTRODUCTION	386
1. Subphylum I. ENTEROPNEUSTA	386
2. Subphylum II. TUNICATA	389
3. Subphylum III. CEPHALOCHORDA	393
4. Subphylum IV. VERTEBRATA: INTRODUCTION	400

CHAPTER XV

SUBPHYLUM VERTEBRATA: Class I. Cyclostomata	414
1. The Lamprey — <i>Petromyzon</i>	415
2. Cyclostomata in General	420

CHAPTER XVI

SUBPHYLUM VERTEBRATA: Class II. Elasmobranchii	422
1. The Dogfish-Shark — <i>Squalus acanthias</i>	422
2. Elasmobranchs in General	428
3. The Economic Importance of Elasmobranchs	431

CHAPTER XVII

SUBPHYLUM VERTEBRATA: Class III. Pisces	432
1. A Bony Fish — The Perch	432
2. An Abridged Classification of Living Fishes	443

	PAGE
3. The Anatomy and Physiology of Fishes in General	445
4. General Account of Some of the Principal Groups of Fishes	452
5. Deep Sea Fishes	472
6. Fossil Fishes	474
7. The Economic Importance of Fishes	474

CHAPTER XVIII

SUBPHYLUM VERTEBRATA: Class IV. Amphibia	477
1. The Frog	477
2. A Brief Classification of Living Amphibia	510
3. Review of the Orders and Families of Living Amphibia . .	512
4. General Remarks on Amphibia	522

CHAPTER XIX

SUBPHYLUM VERTEBRATA: Class V. Reptilia	527
1. The Turtle	527
2. A Brief Classification of Living Reptilia	534
3. Review of the Orders and Families of Living Reptiles . .	540
4. The Poisonous Snakes of North America	569
5. The Economic Importance of Reptiles	570
6. Prehistoric Reptiles	572

CHAPTER XX

SUBPHYLUM VERTEBRATA: Class VI. Aves	575
1. The Pigeon	575
2. A Brief Classification of Birds	588
3. A Review of the Orders and Families of Birds	593
4. A General Account of the Class Aves	616
a, Form and Function, 616; b, The Colors of Birds, 621; c, Bird Songs, 621; d, Bird Flight, 621; e, Bird Migration, 622; f, The Nests, Eggs, and Young of Birds, 624; g, The Economic Importance of Birds, 626; h, Domesticated Birds, 630.	

CHAPTER XXI	PAGE
SUBPHYLUM VERTEBRATA: Class VII. Mammalia	632
1. The Rabbit	633
2. A Brief Classification of Living Mammals	641
3. A Review of the Principal Orders and Families of Living Mammals	645
4. General Remarks on the Mammalia	676
a, Integumentary Structures, 676; b, The Teeth of Mammals, 678; c, The Development of Mammals, 680; d, Hibernation, 682; e, Migration, 683; f, Domesticated Mammals, 684; g, Fossil Mammals, 685; h, The Economic Importance of Mammals, 688.	
CHAPTER XXII	
THE ANCESTORS AND INTERRELATIONS OF THE VERTEBRATES	691
1. The Relations between Vertebrates and Invertebrates	691
2. The Phylogeny of Vertebrates	693
3. The Fossil Remains of Vertebrates	696
a, Succession of Life in General, 696: b. The Evolution of the Horse; 698.	

SCHEME OF THE CLASSIFICATION ADOPTED IN THIS BOOK

	PAGE
PHYLUM I. PROTOZOA	27
PAGE	
Class I. RHIZOPODA	27
Order 1. LOBOSA	39
" 2. HELIOZOA	40
" 3. RADIOLARIA	40
" 4. FORAMINIFERA	41
Class II. MASTIGOPHORA	41
Order 1. FLAGELLATA	45
" 2. CHOANOFAGEL- LATA	47
" 3. DINOFAGELLATA	47
" 4. CYSTOFAGEL- LATA	48
Class III. SPOROZOA	48
Subclass I. Telosporidia	52
Order 1. GREGARINIDA	52
" 2. COCCIDIIDEA	52
" 3. HÆMOSPORIDIA	52
Subclass II. Neosporidia	52
Order 1. MYXOSPORIDIA	52
" 2. SARCOSPORIDIA	53
Class IV. INFUSORIA	53
Subclass I. Ciliata	62
Order 1. HOLOTRICHA	63
" 2. HETEROTRICHA	63
" 3. HYPOTRICHA	64
" 4. PERITRICHA	65
Subclass II. Suctoria	65
PHYLUM II. PORIFERA	92
Class I. CALCAREA	105
Order 1. HOMOCŒLA	105
" 2. HETEROCŒLA	105
Class II. HEXACTINELLIDA	105
Class III. DEMOSPONGIÆ	105
Order 1. TETRAXONIDA	105
" 2. MONAXONIDA	105
" 3. KERATOSA	105
PHYLUM III. CŒLENTERATA	108
Class I. HYDROZOA	118
Order 1. ANTHOMEDUSÆ	128
" 2. LEPTOMEDUSÆ	128
" 3. TRACHYMEDUSÆ	128
" 4. NARCOMEDUSÆ	128
" 5. HYDROCORAL- LINÆ	129
" 6. SIPHONOPHORA	129
Class II. SCYPHOZOA	129
Order 1. STAUROMEDUSÆ	132
" 2. PEROMEDUSÆ	132
" 3. CUBOMEDUSÆ	133
" 4. DISCOMEDUSÆ	133
Class III. ANTHOZOA	133
Subclass I. Alcyonaria	139
Order 1. STOLONIFERA	139

PAGE		PAGE	
Order 2. ALCYONACEA	139	Order 2. ACTINIARIA	141
" 3. GORGONACEA	139	" 3. MADREPORARIA	141
" 4. PENNATULACEA	140	" 4. ZOANTHIDEA	142
Subclass II. Zoantharia	141	" 5. ANTIPATHIDEA	142
Order 1. EDWARDSIIDEA	141	" 6. CERIANTHIDEA	142
 PHYLUM IV. CTENOPHORA			
145			
 PHYLUM V. PLATYHELMINTHES			
150			
Class I. TURBELLARIA	155	Class II. TREMATODA	157
Order 1. RHABDOCŒLIDA	156	Order 1. MONOGENEA	161
" 2. TRICLADIDA	156	" 2. DIGENEA	161
" 3. POLYCLADIDA	157	Class III. CESTODA	163
 PHYLUM VI. NEMATHELMINTHES			
169			
 GROUPS OF INVERTEBRATES OF MORE OR LESS UNCERTAIN SYSTEMATIC POSITION			
176			
Group 1. MESOZOA	176	Group 6. ROTIFERA	181
" 2. NEMERTINEA	177	" 7. BRYOZOA	183
" 3. NEMATOMORPHA	179	" 8. PHORONIDEA	185
" 4. ACANTHOCEPHALA	180	" 9. BRACHIOPODA	185
" 5. CHÆTOGNATHA	180	" 10. GEPHYREA	186
 PHYLUM VII. ECHINODERMATA			
189			
Class I. ASTEROIDEA	198	Class IV. HOLOTHURIOIDEA	205
Class II. OPHIUROIDEA	199	Class V. CRINOIDEA	208
Class III. ECHINOIDEA	202		
 PHYLUM VIII. ANELIDA			
215			
Class I. ARCHIANNELIDA	232	Order 2. CRYPTOCEPH-	
Class II. CHÆTOPODA	233	ALA	236
Subclass I. Polychæta	234	Subclass II. Oligochæta	236
Order 1. PHANEROCEPH-		Order 1. MICRODRILI	236
ALA	236	" 2. MACRODRILI	236
Class III. HIRUDINEA			
			236

	PAGE
PHYLUM IX. MOLLUSCA	243
PAGE	
Class I. AMPHINEURA	251
Order 1. POLYPLACOPHORA	251
“ 2. APLACOPHORA	252
Class II GASTROPODA	252
Subclass I. Streptoneura	258
Order 1. ASPIDOBRANCHIA	258
“ 2. PECTINIBRANCHIA	258
CHIA	258
Subclass II. Euthyneura	258
Order 1. OPISTHOBRANCHIA	258
CHIA	258
Order 2. PULMONATA	258
Class III. SCAPHOPODA	261
Class IV. PELECYPODA	261
Order 1. PROTOBRANCHIA	262
“ 2. FILIBRANCHIA	262
“ 3. EULAMELLIBRANCHIA	262
“ 4. SEPTIBRANCHIA	262
Class V. CEPHALOPODA	264
Order 1. TETRABRANCHIA	268
“ 2. DIBRANCHIA	268
PHYLUM X. ARTHROPODA	274
Class I. CRUSTACEA	276
Subclass I. Branchiopoda	292
Order 1. PHYLLOPODA	292
“ 2. CLADOCERA	294
Subclass II. Ostracoda	294
“ 3. Copepoda	294
“ 4. Cirripedia	294
“ 5. Malacostraca	294
Order 1. NEBALIACEA	294
“ 2. ANASPIDACEA	294
“ 3. MYSIDACEA	294
“ 4. CUMACEA	294
“ 5. TANAIDACEA	297
“ 6. ISOPODA	297
“ 7. AMPHIPODA	297
“ 8. EUPHAUSIACEA	297
“ 9. DECAPODA	297
Suborder 1. <i>Natantia</i>	297
“ 2. <i>Reptantia</i>	297
“ 10. STOMATOPODA	297
Class II. ONYCHOPHORA	305
Class III. MYRIAPODA	308
Order 1. PAUROPODA	309
“ 2. DIPLOPODA	309
“ 3. CHILOPODA	310
“ 4. SYMPHYLA	311
Class IV. INSECTA	312
Order 1. APTERA	337
“ 2. EPEHEMERIDA	338
“ 3. ODONATA	339
“ 4. PLECOPTERA	340
“ 5. ISOPTERA	340
“ 6. CORRODENTIA	341
“ 7. MALLOPHAGA	341
“ 8. THYSANOPTERA	342
“ 9. EUPLEXOPTERA	342
“ 10. ORTHOPTERA	343
“ 11. HEMIPTERA	345
“ 12. NEUROPTERA	349
“ 13. MECOPTERA	349
“ 14. TRICHOPTERA	350
“ 15. LEPIDOPTERA	350
“ 16. DIPTERA	356
“ 17. SIPHONAPTERA	359

PAGE		PAGE	
Order 18. COLEOPTERA	360	Order 5. PEDIPALPI	384
" 19. HYMENOPTERA	364	" 6. PALPIGRADI	382
Class V. ARACHNIDA	371	" 7. SOLIFUGÆ	382
Order 1. ARANEIDA	371	" 8. CHERNETIDIA	382
" 2. SCORPIONIDEA	377	" 9. XIPHOSURA	383
" 3. PHALANGIDEA	379	" 10. EURYPTERIDA	384
" 4. ACARINA	379		
 PHYLUM XI. CHORDATA			
		386	
Subphylum I. ENTEROPNEUSTA		386	
Order 1. BALANOGLOSSIDA		386	
" 2. CEPHALODISCIDA		386	
Subphylum II. TUNICATA		389	
Order 1. ASCIDIACEA		391	
" 2. THALIACEA		393	
" 3. LARVACEA		393	
Subphylum III. CEPHALOCHORDA		393	
" IV. VERTEBRATA		400	
Class I. CYCLOSTOMATA		414	
Subclass 1. Myxinoidea		420	
" 2. Petromyzontia		420	
Class II. ELASMOBRANCHII		422	
Subclass 1. Selachii		428	
Order 1. SQUALI		428	
" 2. RAJI		429	
Subclass 2. Holocephali		430	
Class III. PISCES		432	
Subclass 1. Teleostomi		452	
Order 1. CROSSOPTERYGII		452	
" 2. CHONDROSTEI		452	
" 3. HOLOSTEI		454	
" 4. TELEOSTEI		455	
Subclass 2. Dipnoi		471	
Class IV. AMPHIBIA		477	
Order 1. APODA		512	
" 2. CAUDATA		513	
" 3. SALIENTIA		517	