

Chordate and Vertebrate

What you'll learn:

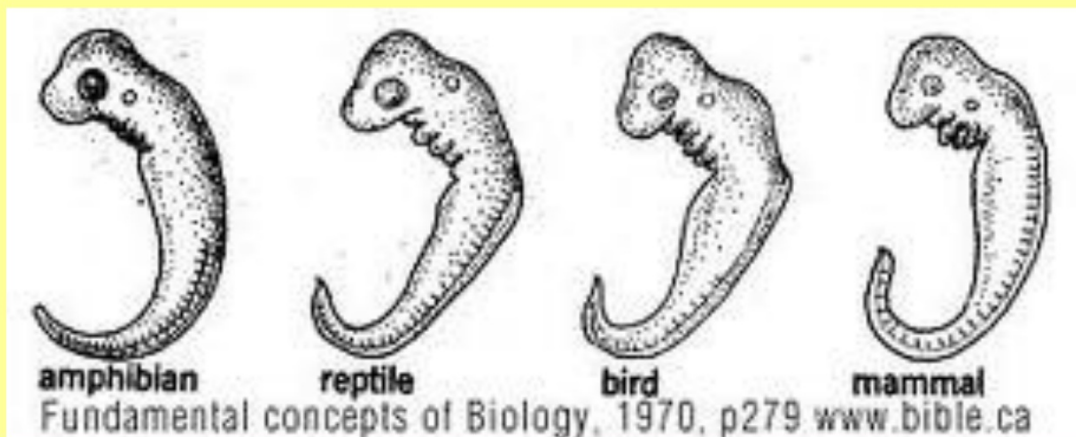
List the characteristics of all chordates.

Identify characteristics shared by vertebrates.

Differentiate between ectotherms and endotherms.

Chordate Characteristics

*They all have a notochord, postanal tail, nerve chord, and gill slits present at sometime of their development.



Notochord

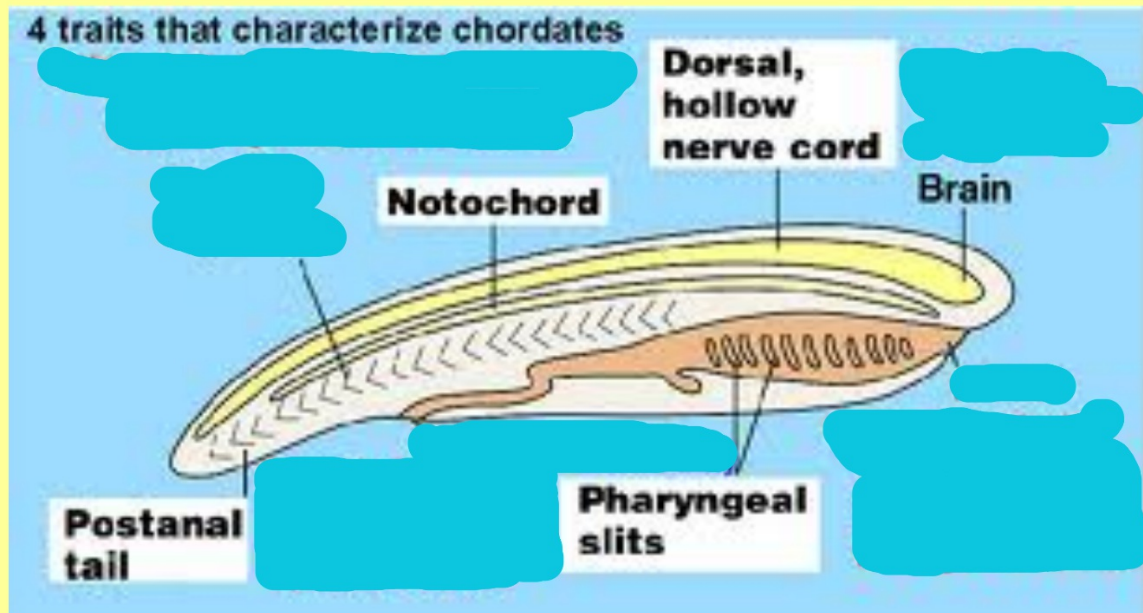
- *It supports the animal and extends along the upper part of its body.**
- *Flexible but firm and is made of fluid filled cells that are enclosed by a stiff covering.**

Nerve Cord

- *It runs the length of the body the front enlarges to form the brain the remainder becomes the spinal cord.**
- *The two parts together are called the Central Nervous System which is responsible for sensory and motor responses.**

Gill Slits

*Found between the mouth and digestive tube



Vertebrate Characteristics

*Endoskeleton provides support , place for muscles to attach, and protection for organs.

*Vertebrae protect the nerve cord and a skull protects the brain.

*Internal organs are located in a central body cavity.

*Protective skin covers the endoskeleton.



Vertebrate Groups

*Seven groups of vertebrates(Jawless Fish, Cartilaginous Fish, Bony Fish, Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds, Mammals)



Great Barracuda (Sphyraera barracuda)



*They are either endotherms (warm-blooded) or ectotherms (cold-blooded)

Mammals/Birds

Reptiles/Fish