#### **30-1 The Chordates**

- Phylum *Chordata*
- 4 key characteristics:
  - 1) dorsal, hollow nerve cord
  - 2) notochord
  - 3) pharyngeal pouches
  - 4) tail





#### **Nerve Cord**

- The hollow <u>nerve cord</u> runs along the dorsal side.
- Nerves branch out and connect to internal organs.

### **Notochord**

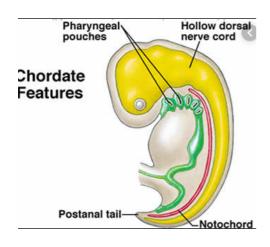
- The <u>notochord</u> is a long supporting rod that runs through the body just below the nerve cord.
- Many chordates only have a notochord when they are embryos.

## **Pharyngeal Pouches**

- <u>Pharyngeal pouches</u> are paired structures in the throat (pharynx) region.
- In some chordates (fish, amphibians), slits develop here and eventually become gills.

## **Tail**

• At some point in the life cycle, all chordates have a tail.





### **Most Chordates are Vertebrates**

- ~96% are in subphylum Vertebrata
- Vertebrates have a strong supporting structure called the backbone.
- Dorsal, hollow nerve cord = spinal cord
- <u>Backbone</u> is made of individual segments called vertebrae.
- Endoskeleton continues to grow along with the animal, and contains living material.

Animals with Backbones The Vertebrate Story Fish and Amphibians as Maior Groups

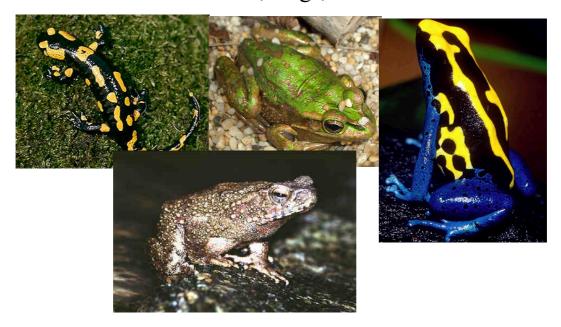
### Fish

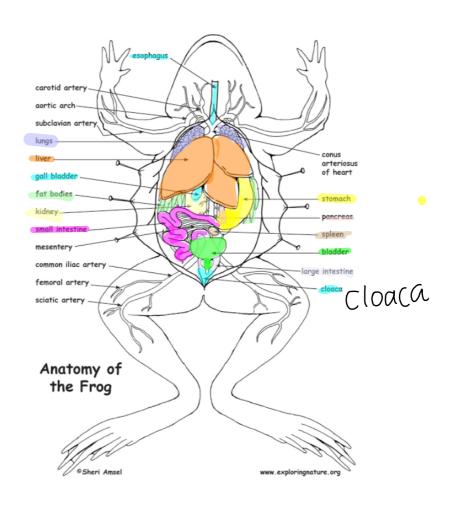
- aquatic vertebrates with paired fins, scales and gills
- includes jawless fish (eels), cartilaginous fish (sharks, rays) and bony fish (angelfish, salmon, seadragon, etc.)



# **Amphibians**

- amphibian = "double life"
- aquatic larvae, terrestrial adults
- moist skin; lacks scales and claws
- includes salamanders, frogs, toads





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## **Reptiles**

- dry, scaly skin helps retain moisture
- adapted for life on land (terrestrial eggs; lungs for breathing air; large, strong limbs; many have claws)
- cold-blooded (<u>ectotherms</u>): body temperatures controlled by behaviour
- includes lizards, snakes, crocodiles, turtles



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#### **Birds**

- <u>Birds</u> are reptile-like animals that maintain a constant internal body temperature.
- They have an outer covering of feathers; two legs that are covered with scales and are used for walking or perching; and front limbs modified into wings.
- <u>Feathers</u> are made mostly of protein and develop from pits in the birds' skin; they help them to fly and also keep them warm.



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#### **Mammals**

- All mammals have hair and mammary glands.
- <u>Mammary glands</u> produce milk to nourish the young.
- Mammals also breathe air, have four-chambered hearts, and are endotherms that generate body heat internally.

• Includes monotremes (platypus), marsupials (kangaroos) and placental mammals (humans).

