

## Incredible Invertebrates!

- 10 Invertebrates are a group of animals that do not have  
18 a back bone. Mammals, amphibians, reptiles, fish and  
29 birds do not fit into this category because they all have  
38 vertebrae (spinal bones), but these animals make up less  
49 than 4% of all the animal species on Earth. This means  
58 that around 96% of animal species alive are invertebrates.  
66 These include marine invertebrates and molluscs, such as  
75 sponges, jellyfish and oysters, as well as crustaceans and  
82 insects, such as crabs, shrimp and butterflies.
- 91 The largest invertebrate ever recorded was a giant squid  
99 that measured 13m long. The smallest invertebrates are  
110 so tiny that they cannot be seen by the naked eye.



## Answers



1. Write a short definition of the word 'invertebrate'.

**Accept any definition that states that invertebrates are creatures without spinal bones.**



2. What percentage (%) of animals on Earth actually have spinal bones?

**4%**



3. Who do you think this information is for?

**Accept an answer which states for children / those who do not know about invertebrates / people interested in the animal species.**



4. Write two questions that you could find the answers to in this text.

**Accept any questions that are correctly punctuated and whose answers can be directly retrieved from the text.**

## Metamorphosis

- 9 Metamorphosis is a process by which animals undergo an  
19 abrupt and obvious change in the structure of their body  
26 and their behaviour. Some animals undergo complete  
32 metamorphosis, in which they completely transform.  
37 Other animals experience incomplete metamorphosis,  
46 where they go through several different stages, with each  
52 stage getting bigger than the last.
- 59 Complete metamorphosis has four distinct stages: egg,  
70 larva, pupa and adult (for example a frog or butterfly) and  
79 the animal looks very different at each stage. Incomplete  
86 metamorphosis has three distinct stages: egg, nymph,  
95 and adult (for example a dragonfly or grasshopper) and  
104 the young animal (nymph) looks like a smaller version  
107 of the adult.



## Quick Questions



1. Find and copy two words in the text that mean the same as 'change'.

**Accept: transform and metamorphosis.**



2. Name two animals from the text that go through complete metamorphosis.

**Accept: frog and butterfly.**



3. Describe two ways in which complete and incomplete metamorphosis are different.

**Accept reference to amount of stages and how the young animal looks.**



4. Explain why the word 'abrupt' has been used to describe metamorphosis.

**Accept any reference to metamorphosis being sudden or unexpected.**