

# Incredible Invertebrates!

- 10 Invertebrates are a species of animal 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.



# Quick Questions



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

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

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3. Who do you think this information is for?

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

a. 

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b. 

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# 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.**