

Different Types of Skeletons

When we talk about skeletons of animals, they can be divided into two main groups. These are:

Vertebrates - animals with a backbone (spine)

Invertebrates - animals without a backbone

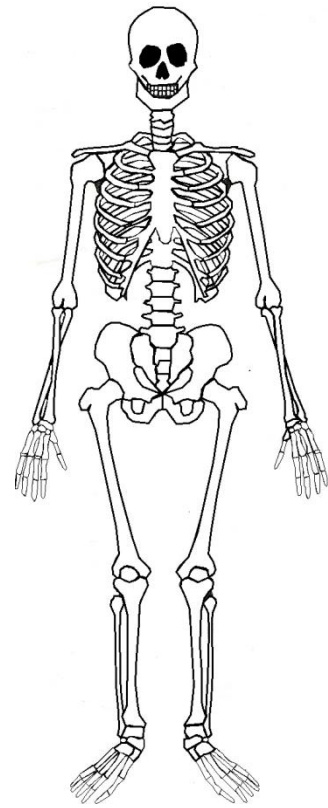
Only one of the animals in the diagrams has a spine. Can you work out which one it is?

Vertebrates' skeletons are *inside* their body. This is called an *endoskeleton*.

So, the other two are *invertebrates*.

Invertebrates can then be divided again into 2 groups.

Those with skeletons on the outside of their body - called *exoskeletons* and those with no bones at all. These are called *hydroskeletons*. Can you work out which creature has the hydroskeleton?



Important vocabulary		
skeleton	spine	backbone
invertebrate	vertebrate	exoskeleton
endoskeleton	hydroskeleton	

