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Living Oceans  
Foundation

## STANDARDS

- **CCSS:** RST.9-10.1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10; RST.11-12.1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10; W.9-10.2, 4, 7, 8, 9; W.11-12.2, 4, 7, 8, 9; SL.9-10.4, 6; SL.11-12.4, 6
- **NGSS:** HS-LS4-1
- **OLP:** 4.B.1, 4.B.2, 5.C.22

## ONLINE CONTENTS

- [Classification Quiz](#)
- [What Clade R U?](#) Interactive (at bottom of *How To Build A Cladogram* section) Use the interactive program to learn and explore more about the anatomy of a stony coral polyp.
- [What Are Corals? Video](#) Classification helps scientists tell species apart. This educational video explains modern biological classification categories from the most general (domain) to the most specific (species).

# CLASSIFICATION

This lesson is part of the *Classification* unit, which explains how to organize the millions of organisms on Earth. Below is a summary of what is included in the entire unit.

## UNIT CONTENTS

### A. [Background Information](#)

- How Do We Classify Organisms?
- Linnaean Naming System
- Coral Classification
- Modern Classification
- Understanding Cladograms
- How to Build a Cladogram

### B. Lessons

#### [Watch It! Naming Nature](#)

- A worksheet to accompany the [Naming Nature](#) video

#### [Classify This!](#)

- A worksheet to classify an organism and identify its characteristics

#### [Rules, Rules, Rules](#)

- A worksheet about scientific names

#### ["Taxing" Corals](#)

- An activity to classify corals based on their characteristics

#### [In Light of New Evidence](#)

- A writing assignment on an organism that has been reclassified

#### [The Key to ID](#)

- An activity using a dichotomous key for sea stars

#### [And Then There Was One](#)

- An activity to create a dichotomous key for corals

#### [Cladograms 1](#)

- A lesson on creating and interpreting a cladogram

#### [Cladograms 2](#)

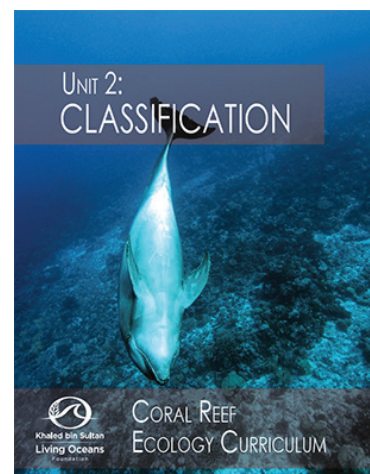
- A lesson on creating and interpreting a cladogram (with traits already included)

#### [Read It! Troubling Taxonomy](#)

- A worksheet to accompany the [Troubling Taxonomy](#) field blog

#### [Read It! Blue, You Say?](#)

- A worksheet to accompany the [Blue, You Say?](#) field blog





# LESSON 1A

# CLASSIFY THIS!

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Choose an organism (plant or animal) and write its common name on the line below.
2. Write the scientific name on the line below, following the Linnaean rules of binomial nomenclature.
3. Classify it by its eight taxonomic divisions.
4. For each category, write four characteristics that are used to classify the organism.

Common Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Scientific Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DIVISIONS	TAXONOMY	CHARACTERISTICS
DOMAIN		
KINGDOM		
PHYLUM		
CLASS		
ORDER		
FAMILY		
GENUS		
SPECIES		

