

Chapter 6B - Animals (vertebrates)

1. What are some characteristics of the following vertebrate types: fish, amphibians, snakes and lizards, birds, and mammals.
2. What are anadromous fish? How do they cope with the extreme changes in their environment? You may have to look elsewhere for this question.
3. Why are amphibians so susceptible to environmental changes?
4. How do bird adaptations maintain their capability of flight?
5. What are two strategies lizards and snakes have adapted to conserve water?
6. Why do snakes flick their tongues?
7. What is the difference between monotreme, marsupial, and placental mammals?
8. Where do you find the most diversity of monotremes and marsupials?
9. Human activity and domestic and introduced animals: What are some of the effects of domesticated and introduced animals on habitat in California?
10. Why is it important to maintain our native species diversity? Is the prey base more important than the predator base? Or vice versa? What are some obstacles to maintaining the balance?

For discussion in class- Even rivers in southern California have had historic steelhead/trout runs. The Santa Margarita and San Luis Rey rivers are the 2 most southern ones in the state. [CalTrout](#) is a state-wide program working to re-establish trout runs. What benefits are there to doing this to ecosystems and indigenous populations?