

Classification

Scientists rank all living organisms. While visiting ZSL Whipsnade Zoo visit the following animals and rank them just like the chimpanzee example below.

Alternatively you can visit the IUCN Red List: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

	<u>Chimpanzee</u>	<u>Gaur</u>	<u>Wolverine</u>	<u>Ostrich</u>
Kingdom	Animalia	_____	_____	_____
Phylum	Chordata	_____	_____	_____
Class	Mammalia	_____	_____	_____
Order	Primates	_____	_____	_____
Family	Hominidae	_____	_____	_____
Genus	<i>Pans</i>	_____	_____	_____
Species	<i>troglodytes</i>	_____	_____	_____

Below are two different species, the Pygmy Hippopotamus (top) and Common Hippopotamus (bottom). Visit both these species and discuss the similarities and differences of their physical characteristics.

The binomial system of naming species uses Latin words. This enables scientists to accurately identify animals. For example the Latin name for the Greater-One Horned Rhinoceros is *Rhinoceros unicornis*. What are the Latin names for the Pygmy Hippopotamus and Common Hippopotamus? Complete the gaps below.

Similarities



Differences

Discussion Points:

- Discuss the difficulties scientists have when classifying species using physical characteristics only?
- What other methods could scientists use to classify species?
- In your opinion do you think that classification plays a crucial role in species conservation? Find out more and discuss in groups.