Topic: Animals including humans (muscles and skeletons) Year: 3 Strand: Biology

What should I already know?

- The parts of the human body and what they do.
- There are five types of vertebrates (mammals, fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds)
- Vertebrates are animals that have a backbone.
- Invertebrates are animals that do not have a backbone.
- All animals need water, air and food to survive.
- The different ways in which humans can be healthy.

What will I know by the end of the unit? What are the • Vertebrates are animals that have a backbone. These different types of skeletons are called endoskeletons - this means that the skeletons? skeletons are on the inside of the bodies. These skeletons grow with the bodies. • When the skeleton exists outside the body, it is called an exoskeleton. An exoskeleton is a covering that supports and protects animals. These have to be shed and a new skeleton is grown. What does an • The three most important things a **skeleton** does are: endoskeleton • provide support and shape to an animal's body do? • allow movement through the joints • protect organs (e.g. the skull protects the brain) How do we • Joints are where bones meet - they allow our bodies to move? move Muscles contract and relax. • If you place an elbow on a desk and lift your arm up, muscles in your upper arm (biceps) contract while muscles behind the upper arm (triceps) relax. The muscles work together and in opposition to allow your arm to move. • Muscles are connected to bones by tendons. The Human Skeleton cranium



Investigate!

- Identify and group animals with and without skeletons and compare the ways in which they move.
- Match animals to their **skeletons** and explain your reasons for this.
- Explore ideas about what would happen if humans did not have **skeletons**.
- Identify which **bones** are used for **support** (e.g. **backbone**), which are used for **protection** (e.g. cranium) and which are used for movement (e.g. joints)
- Create a presentation to show how **muscles contract** and **relax.**
- Compare the size of straight arms and bent arms. Measure around the top of an arm when it is straight and when it is bent . What do you notice?

	Vocabulary		
backbone	the column of small linked bones down the middle of your back . Also known as a spine.		
bones	the hard parts inside your body which form your skeleton		
contract	to make smaller by drawing together; shrink or make tighter.		
elbow	the bend or joint between the upper arm and the lower arm		
endoskeleton	the internal skeleton of an animal, especially the bony skeleton of vertebrates		
exoskeleton	the protective or supporting structure covering the outside of the body of many animals		
joints	the junction between two or more bones		
muscles	something inside your body which connects two bones and which you use when you make a movement		
organs	a part of your body that has a particular purpose		
protect	protecting someone or something means to prevent them from being harmed or damaged		
relax	When a part of your body relaxes , or when you relax it, it becomes less stiff or firm		
skeleton	the framework of bones in your body		
support	to hold something up		
tendons	a strong cord in a person's or animal's body which joins a muscle to a bone		
vertebrate	a creature which has a spine		

Muscles



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Start of

unit:

End of

unit:

Question 1: Match the	words to their meanings.	Start of unit:	End of unit:
skeleton	the hard parts inside your body which form your skeleton		
joint	something inside your body which connects two bones and which you use when you make a movement		
muscle	the framework of bones in your body		
bone	the junction between two or more bones		

Question 2: Which part of the	Start of	End of	Question 3: Which part of the
skeleton protects the brain?	unit:	unit:	skeleton protects the heart and
skeleton			lungs?
head			chest
cranium			ribs
ribs			cranium
			spine

Question 4: What does the prefix exo- tell us about exoskeletons?	Start of unit:	End of unit:

Question 6: What is the purpose of a skeleton?	Start of unit:	End of unit:
protect our organs		
scare us		
keep us upright		
allows us to move		

Question 5: What connects a muscle to a bone?	Start of unit:	End of unit:
skeleton		
tendon		
joint		
blood		

Question 7: All animals that have a backbone are called	Start of unit:	End of unit:
vertebrates		
invertebrates		

Question 8: Describe something that might happen if we did not have a skeleton.	Start of unit:	End of unit:

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Question 9: Complete the labels on muscles to show if they are contracting or relaxing. Write a sentence underneath the diagram to explain how our muscles help us move.	Start of unit:	End of unit:

Question 10: Complete the labels on the skeleton so that they have been named correctly	Start of unit:	End of unit: