

Classification Activity Worksheet

Instructions: Read each myth (untruth). Reword it to make a factual statement. Then, give two to three reasons why the myth is untrue. Use complete sentences and support your answer with evidence, using your own words.

For example:

Myth: A dead organism is the same as a nonliving thing in science.

Fact: A dead organism is not the same as a nonliving thing in science.

Evidence: (You can find evidence in Lesson 5.03. Explain why this evidence supports the fact statement.)

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1. Myth: A dead organism is the same as a nonliving thing in science.
 - Fact: A dead organism is not the same as a nonliving thing in science
 - Evidence: Things that are non living never had the characteristics of life. Things that are dead had the characteristics of life but when they die they lose some of the characteristics.
 2. Myth: The Linnaeus system of classification will always stay the same.
 - Fact: The Linnaeus system of classification won't always stay the same.
 - Evidence: When Linnaeus made the system the microscope wasn't invented so only the organisms you could see were on the chart
 3. Myth: Tigers and goldfish are not related.
 - Fact: Tigers and goldfish are actually related
 - Evidence: They seem different because one is a warm blooded and the other a cold blooded animal but they share the same point in the phylogenetic tree.
 4. Myth: An organism's kingdom only describes physical characteristics.
 - Fact: An organism's kingdom does not only describe physical characteristics.
 - Evidence: Organisms are classified into the different kingdoms based on physical appearance, their function, how they reproduce and how they obtain their food.
 5. Myth: Mammals and plants don't belong in the same domain.
 - Fact: Human beings are not at all related to other species and are way different than animals.
 - Evidence: Humans have unique features not found in other species, we are very closely related to apes, other mammals, animals, and organisms.

Your Turn

Come up with another myth about the classification of organisms. Then, give two to three reasons why the myth is untrue. Use complete sentences and support your answer with evidence, using your own words.

6. Your myth: Lions are just big cats
 - Fact: Lions aren't just big cats
 - Evidence: They aren't in the same Genus or Species