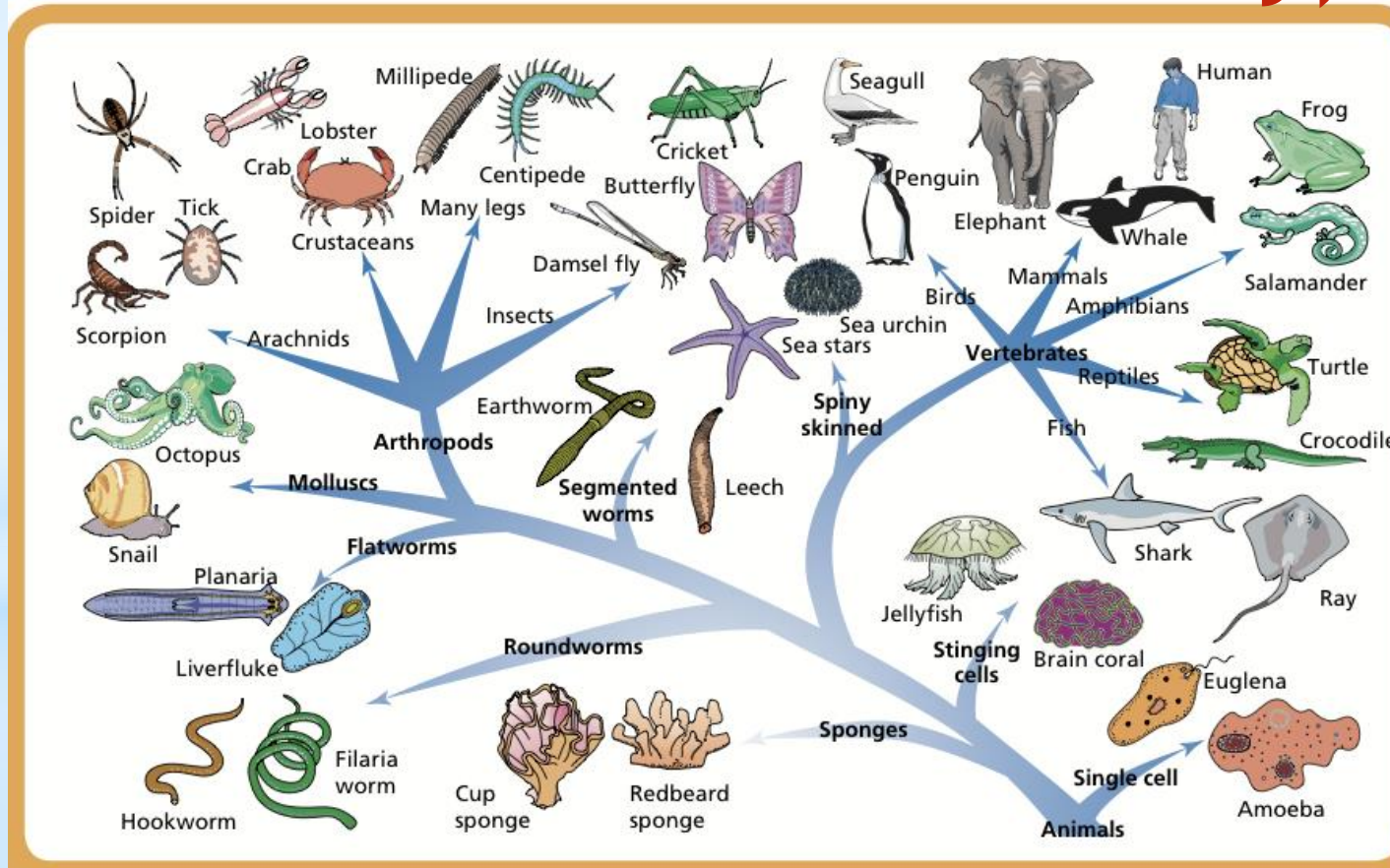


Zoology (2)

(Basics of Animal Taxonomy)



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1st year Students (Credit hours)

Chapter (4)

Phylum Coelenterata

(Cnidaria)

Phylum Coelenterata or (Cnidaria)

Jellyfish, anemones, corals



The "simplest" of the complex animals . . .

General characters of Coelenterata

- They are multicellular organisms, exhibiting tissue grade of the organization.
- They are diploblastic, with two layers of cells, an outer layer called the (ectoderm) and the inner layer called the (endoderm). There is a non-cellular layer that is the (mesogloea) in between the ectoderm and the endoderm.
- They show radial symmetry.
- They have a single opening in the body through which food is taken in and also waste is expelled out.
- The opening in the body is surrounded by tentacles.
- Digestion takes place in the body cavity (coelenteron).
- They can live in marine or freshwater habitats.
- They can be solitary or live in colonies. Each individual is called
- a zoid.

Continued: General characters of Coelenterata

- **These organisms show two morphological forms - Polyps and Medusa Polyps contain exoskeleton and endoskeleton.**
- **The skeletons are composed of calcium carbonate.**
- **Most of the coelenterates are carnivorous in nature with a few exceptions such as the sea corals. They get their food from other animals that live symbiotically within them.**

Classification of Phylum Coelenterata

Phylum coelenterata is divided into three classes:

1-Hydrozoa; Examples: Hydra, Obelia

2-Scyphozoa; Examples : Aurelia, Lucernaria, Cephea, Cyanea, Rhizostoma

3-Anthozoa; Class Anthozoa is subdivided into two subclasses:

1-Subclass: Alcyonaria Example : Tubipora

2-Subclass: Zoantharia Examples : Actinia, Fungia, Favia, Stylophora, Galaxia



Figure 63: *Cephea*



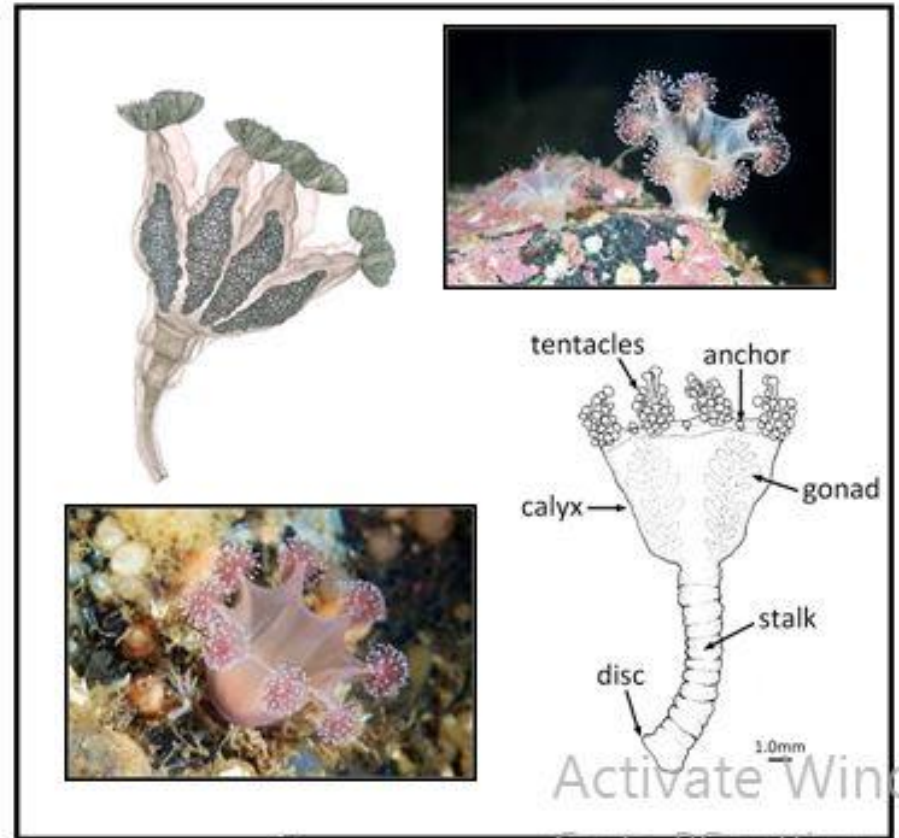
Figure 64: *Cyanea*



Figure 65: *Rhizostoma*



Figure 61: *Aurelia*



Lucernaria



Figure 68: *Fungia*.



Figure 69: *Favia*.



Figure 70: *Scolophora*.



Figure 71: *Galaxia*.



Figure 66: *Tubipora*.

Sub class: *Alcyonaria*



Figure 67: *Actinia*.

Sub class: *Zoantharia*

Sub class: *Zoantharia*

