

# CHAPTER 28 WHAT IS AN ANIMAL?

## Get the Big Picture

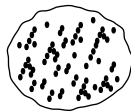
Read the paragraph in the box. Then study the picture and answer the questions.

There are so many kinds of animals that it is nearly impossible to describe just what an animal is. All animals, however, have some things in common. All animals have some kind of shape. Scientists often identify animals by their shape and symmetry—the balance in their body proportions. All animals go through a developmental stage when they go from a single cell to an adult. They also have a life cycle they pass through as they grow. All animals have some way to reproduce. Most animals interact with their environment in some way. And all animals must reproduce if their species is going to survive.

### Some Characteristics of Animals

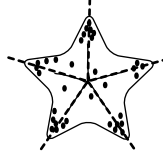
#### Shape or Symmetry

None



Sponge

Radial



Starfish

Bilateral



Human

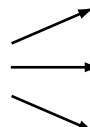
#### Development



One cell



Blastula



Animals

#### Protection and Support



Crab  
exoskeleton



Cat  
endoskeleton

1. What do all adult animals develop from? \_\_\_\_\_
2. A sea urchin is related to a starfish. What kind of symmetry do you think a sea urchin would have? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What kind of skeleton do you have? \_\_\_\_\_