

What Type of Animal is That Supposed to Be?: Scene 1

Tameika and Shakendall were hangin' after school when Antoine walked by with a new pit-bull. Both girls were glad to see Antoine, but also a little frightened of the dog.

"Hey girls, what's up?" said Antoine.

"Not too much," Shakendall said as she slowly backed away from the dog?" Tameika said, "uh, where did you get your new pet Antoine?"

Antoine smiled and reached down to pet his dog, "Oh you mean Max. He is my *Canis lupus familiaris*".

"See, I knew he was a kind of monster!" Tameika blurted out.

Antoine sighed, "Careful girls, Max is very sensitive..... see, you have made his ears droop and now he is tucking his tail".

"I am very sorry Max, but Antoine, it's really all your fault; you were the one who told us that weird title, Casis whateveryacallit" explained Shakendall.

Antoine started shaking his head, "No, that wasn't some strange monster title, *Canis lupus familiaris* describes Max's position in the animal kingdom!"

"Wait, you expect us to believe that Max is part of a kingdom!", snorted Shakendall.

"Do you want us to start calling him King Max", laughed Tameika.

"No guys, Max certainly isn't even close to being a king; the king of Max's kingdom would be more like *Panthera leo*", said Antoine. The girls looked at him like he was insane. He continued "The Latin names that I am using refer to a classification system based on a dichotomous key and there are many different kingdoms".

"How many Kingdoms are there," asked Tameika? "How do you figure out what name goes with what animal," asked Shakendall? "Is he talking about parts of a Classification Taxonomy like, Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, and Species?", asked Shakendall (who was trying to show Antoine that he didn't know everything!)

Antoine sighed and scratched his head, "those are great questions but I don't have all of the answers, come on, lets go look it up" (Antoine was feeling a little irritated that he didn't have all of the answers).

What Type of Animal is That Supposed to Be?: Scene 2

Tameika, Shakendall, and Antoine have just finished learning about the scientific classification system, dichotomous keying, and the six kingdoms. They are feeling a little competitive, and have started to show off.

“I bet Max and I know more about this stuff than you guys” Antoine taunted.

Shakendall rolled her eyes, “You such a know it all, besides, I ain’t getting beat by no dog !”

“Oh, yeah”, Antoine said, “I bet you can’t tell me about Archaeobacteria, Eubacteria, Protista, Plantae, Fungi, or Animalia!”

Feeling frustrated at her friends arguing, Tameika put her hands on her hips and said, “Why don’t y’all just prove it, you can compete to see who knows more about classification and who is more creative!”

“How we supposed to do that”, snapped Antoine, who was beginning to feel insulted?”

“I know”, stated Tameika, “we can each create our own unique fictitious animal and then give it a proper scientific (Latin) name.”

“Whoever comes up with the best animal will win!” stated Shakendall.

“I am going to use clay!” stated Antoine.

“Oh yeah, well I am going to use my drawing skills and make a detailed picture!” exclaimed Shakendall.

“Hold up guys, who is going to judge all this?” asked Tameika?

All three children took a minute to think, and then at once, they all exclaimed “ MAX!”

What Type of Animal is That Supposed to Be?: Scene 3

Tameika, Shakendall, and Antoine have just finished their animals but Max had a hard time picking out the winner (He kept going over to whoever offered him treats). As the kids were walking home, Shakendall saw a poster on the wall.

“Hey guys, check this out,” Shakendall said!

Antoine hunched down and squinted to read the poster

Does your Animal Have What It Takes To Be...
Animal of the Month?



Chimera

Enter your animal into the local competition to see whose animal is worthy of this prestigious award! We dare you to create an ad campaign to pitch your new animal to the local zoo.

Make sure your commercial includes (1) pictures of the organism, (2) an explanation of how its name supports classification categories and (3) a detailed description of its a) behavior, b)habitat, c) ecosystem, and d) diet.

Finally, explain why it deserves to be the animal of the month.

All three children agreed that this would be the final test to see who had the best and most creative animal (no offense to Max’s judging skills).

What Type of Animal is That Supposed to Be?: Classification Worksheet

Name a Specific Organism in One of the Group Below	Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family	Genus	Species
Fish							
Amphibians							
Reptiles							
Insects							
Mammals							

What Type of Animal is That Supposed to Be?: Box Chart

Facts

Questions

Pre-Hypotheses

Learning Issues

What Type of Animal is That Supposed to Be?: Evaluation

Date: _____

Your Name: _____ Group #: _____

Instructions: Please circle the response with which you agree the most. This evaluation will only be read by your teacher and will **not** be shown to other students.

1. How would you rate *your* participation in group discussion and group work?

5 Excellent **4 Very Good** **3 Good** **2 Fair** **1 Poor**

2. How would you rate *your* effort in completing the case?

5 Excellent **4 Very Good** **3 Good** **2 Fair** **1 Poor**

3. Did *you* complete the assigned homework? **Yes** **No**

If No, explain why:

4. How well did *you* work with everyone in your group?

5 Excellent **4 Very Good** **3 Good** **2 Fair** **1 Poor**

5. Overall, how would you rate *your* performance in this case?

5 Excellent **4 Very Good** **3 Good** **2 Fair** **1 Poor**

6. What praise or criticism do you have for other group members? What are your thoughts about the case?
