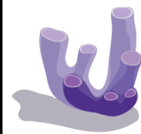


Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Concept Covered: The Phylum Porifera

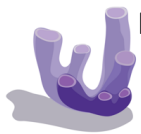
1. What organisms belong to the phylum Porifera? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Are the organisms in this phylum invertebrates or vertebrates?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Describe the organisms in this phylum. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What does the word "Porifera" mean? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why is this a good name for the organisms in this phylum?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. The animals in this phylum are sessile. What does this mean?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Why are these organisms placed in the animal kingdom?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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## Teacher Answer Key

1. The phylum Porifera contains the sponges.
2. Invertebrates
3. Poriferans:
  - Aquatic animals.
  - Bodies have no true tissues.
  - Are the simplest multicellular organisms.
  - Are asymmetrical. They have no body symmetry.
  - They are filter feeders.
  - They are sessile.
4. Porifera means "porous" or "pore-bearing."
5. These animals (sponges) have tiny openings or pores all over their bodies.
6. Sponges spend their entire adult life permanently attached to one spot.
7. There are four basic characteristics needed for an organism to be placed in the animal kingdom. The sponges have all of these four characteristics:
  - Multicellular
  - Heterotrophic
  - Have no cell walls
  - Have a few specialized cells.