Cnidarians

Comes from the Greek word for 'stinging nettle'

- Tentacles to trap food
- Can be brightly coloured

Molluscs

Comes from the Latin word for 'soft'

- Fleshy body with no obvious segments
- Well-developed head with eyes
- Muscular foot
- Hard shell sometimes present

Crustaceans

Comes from the Latin word for 'crust'

- Hard external skeleton
- Jointed legs
- Segmented body
- Obvious eyes, sometimes on stalks

Echinoderms

Comes from Greek words for hedgehog and skin = spiny skin

- No head
- Often has hard spines in rows over body
- Has a system of tube feet used for movement, feeding and respiration
- Often has 5 arms

Pisces

Comes from the Latin word for 'fish'

- Complex animals
- Has a backbone
- Has an obvious head with eyes and mouth
- Gills present
- Pairs of fins and a tail fin
- Can be further divided into bony fish and cartilaginous fish (sharks and rays)