

# **Shape Of Life: Porifera Questions**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

---

1. What was the first animal group? What is the evidence for this conclusion?
2. How long ago did the first animal appear on Earth?
3. How are scientists currently defining the group called “animal”?
4. Should protozoans be considered animals? Why or why not?
5. What does “multicellular” mean? What is meant by “specialized” cells?
6. What do sponges eat?
7. What are Spicules? Why are they needed in the Porifera? And where are they located?
8. What does diploblast mean? How is this used by Porifera?
9. What is the Choanocyte cell? What is their function within the sponges? Where are the Choanocytes located?
10. What is the Ostia and osculum? What are their functions?
11. How do the sponges get the food since they are sessile (attached)?
12. Name two types Classifications of sponges?
13. How do sponges reproduce?
14. Why are sponges considered animals?
- 15) What do you think the first animal looked like?
- 16) How do you think that first animal differed from today’s representatives?
- 17) Why do you think there would even have been a first animal?
- 18) What do you think “evolution” means?
- 19) What were the little organisms that were flying along the sponge tunnels?
- 20) How have relationships between animal groups been determined in the past?
- 21) How is molecular & genetic research influencing our classification of animals into related groups?