Invertebrates

Porifera

- This is a classification of aquatic animals with a sponge-like structure.
- Sponges are multicellular organisms with asymmetrical bodies.
- Spicules or spongin fibers make up the skeleton of sponges.
- They possess a body cavity known as a spongocoel.

Cnidaria

- Cnidarians are invertebrates such as jellyfish and corals.
- All cnidarians are aquatic.
- They have radial symmetry and tissues.
- All cnidarians are carnivores.

Nematoda

- Nematodes are known as roundworms.
- They are abundant in freshwater, soil, and marine habitats.
- They are bilaterally symmetrical worm-like organisms.
- Nematodes are triploblastic, and they possess an embryonic mesoderm.

Annelida

- Annelids are triploblastic.
- Their habitats include oceanic waters, fresh waters, and damp soils.
- They have bilateral symmetry and a segmented body.
- They possess movable bristles and a fluid-filled body cavity called a coelom.

Invertebrates

Mollusca

- Triploblastic and bilaterally symmetrical, molluscs have soft bodies.
- They have a soft unsegmented body usually enclosed in a calcareous shell.
- Their features include a muscular foot, a visceral mass, a mantle, and a radula.
- They are found in marine environments as well as on land.

Arthropoda

- The four major groups of arthropods are insects, myriapods, arachnids, and crustaceans.
- They possess an exoskeleton, a segmented body, and paired jointed appendages.
- The body of arthropods is bilaterally symmetrical.
- Their coelomic cavity is filled with blood.

Platyhelminthes

- Platyhelminthes, also called flatworms, are bilaterally symmetrical and triploblastic, meaning they have three primary germ layers.
- They possess specialized excretory cells known as flame cells.
- The body cavity is absent in Platyhelminthes.
- Platyhelminthes have an incomplete digestive system.

Echinodermata

- Echinoderms are exclusively marine animals.
- They are characterized by a hard, spiny covering or skin.
- An internal skeleton is present in all echinoderms.
- Echinoderms possess a water-based vascular system.