Classifying Organisms

Understanding Main Ideas

Complete the table below. Then answer the questions that follow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientist</th>
<th>Contributions to Modern Classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aristotle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolus Linnaeus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Describe the modern system of classification.

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Building Vocabulary

Match each term with its definition by writing the letter of the correct definition on the line beside the term.

2. classification       a. naming system developed by Carolus Linnaeus
3. taxonomic key         b. process of grouping things based on their similarities
4. binomial nomenclature c. first part of an organism’s scientific name
5. genus                 d. tool for identifying organisms that is based on a series of paired statements describing physical characteristics
6. species               e. a group of organisms that can mate and produce fertile offspring
7. taxonomy              f. the scientific study of how things are classified